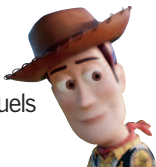


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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## Left in the dark

Parents troubled by DODEA's response when teachers are investigated for bullying students

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The special education teacher thrust a mirror toward her student's face as he sobbed. "Look at yourself," she scolded the boy. "Look at how disgusting that looks."

The boy, fifth grader Bryson Washington, was enrolled at the time in Stuttgart Elementary School's program for students with moderate to severe disabilities, part of the Department of Defense Education Activity system in Europe.

The incident was part of a pattern of abuse that went on in the special needs classroom for months. Bryson would forget a word or write outside the lines, the teacher would punish him, and he'd act out.

But the mirror episode was the tipping point. Soon afterward, an anonymous report was made to the Family Advocacy Program, the military's equivalent of civilian child protective services.

A Family Advocacy investigation validated an allegation of emotional abuse against the teacher in October.

Bryson's parents, Candace Balfour and Sgt. 1st Class Edward Balfour, were devastated, but hopeful the



Bryson Washington's parents said they were frustrated and angry at the way the military's school system handled a finding of emotional abuse substantiated by the Family Advocacy Program against Bryson's former teacher at Stuttgart Elementary School.

JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

school would act swiftly to mitigate the harm done to their son.

That didn't occur.

Although DODEA officials said they do not tolerate abusive conduct of any kind and that "students are at the heart of everything we do," what happened to the Balfours and others who contacted Stars and Stripes suggests otherwise.

Ten parents, including the Balfours, and former school employees described disturbing behavior involving teachers at three DODEA schools in Europe. Their allegations include educators berating and mocking second graders, calling a kindergarten by a racist term and locking a special needs fourth grader out of the classroom.

Just as troubling as the teachers' alleged misconduct, said those interviewed, was the response from DODEA.

When teacher misconduct was reported to school principals and higher-ups, parents said they were kept in the dark about what action, if any, DODEA took.

When DODEA teachers were disciplined, the punishment they received was temporary and they were back teaching within months, often in the same classroom.

SEE BULLYING ON PAGE 6



iStock

## US outguns Iran, but faces painful realities in event of war

By DAN LAMOTHE  
The Washington Post

Rising tensions that, according to President Donald Trump, left the U.S. just short of open conflict with Iran last week highlight a grim reality that the Pentagon has coped with for years: While the U.S. military outguns Iran, Tehran could make even a limited war painful.

Iran's military has more than 700,000

### ANALYSIS

troops, including a conventional army of about 350,000 soldiers, according to a Congressional Research Service report published last month. That's not counting the Revolutionary Guard, a specialized force comprising another 125,000 troops in its army and 20,000 personnel in its navy, the CRS report said.

It's the Guard that has created friction between the U.S. and Iran. The force, des-

ignated a foreign terrorist organization by the Trump administration in April, patrols the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, oversees Iran's ballistic missile programs and claimed responsibility for downing a U.S. surveillance drone over the Gulf of Oman on Thursday, prompting the administration to plan a retaliatory strike before Trump halted it late in the day.

SEE REALITIES ON PAGE 6

### RELATED

Trump approved cyberstrikes against Iran's missile systems

Iranian general warns US that war would affect entire region

Page 5

## MILITARY

# Ex-Army officer gets 18 years to life for killing woman in NYC

By SHAYNA JACOBS  
New York Daily News

A former Army lieutenant colonel who gunned down an "adored" Manhattan woman he met online was sentenced to 18 years to life in prison Thursday.

Elizabeth Lee-Herman's heart-broken family and friends spared no words expressing their anger at her killer at a hearing in Manhattan Supreme Court.

"You are a deflational self-absorbed cold-hearted killer," fumed Pat Hudson, a friend of Lee-Herman, a 56-year-old mother of two.

When a plea deal was reached in May, Vincent Verdi told the court, "After decades of serving my country as an Army officer in war zones around the world and comporting myself with honor and discipline, I don't know how I arrived at this place where I could commit this act, nor how I

can ever atone for the damage I have caused."

After shooting Lee-Herman, Verdi turned the murder weapon on himself in a gory public display. He survived a bullet wound to the head.

Verdi, who did stints on special projects with the CIA and Defense Department in Afghanistan, was charged with murder, weapons possession, aggravated criminal contempt and stalking.

Sources told The News he was a military sniper and was employed by the Drug Enforcement Agency in the 1990s but was fired.

At the sentencing, Verdi offered a self-pitying apology that drew jeers and groans from his victim's loved ones.

"I can only hope one day the New York State criminal justice system will allow me to rejoin my family," Verdi said.

"Never!" one critic said behind him.

"You're the devil!" another chimed in.

Verdi, 64, a who made the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Army and also worked for the federal Drug Enforcement Agency, was arrested for harassing Lee-Herman before he killed her on Nov. 1, 2017. He pleaded guilty of the slaying in May.

Lee-Herman, an Upper East Side resident, regularly biked to her job as a secretary at Grace Church School in the East Village. She was found dead collapsed between two docked Citi Bikes outside Cooper Union.

"From [the breakup] day until the day of her death ... she had no peace from the defendant," Assistant District Attorney Germain Corpew said.

Verdi appeared at Lee-Herman's job, her dentist and her hairdresser, sometimes in disguise. "Nothing stopped him," the prosecutor said.



INVISION/AP

**World War II pilot Lt. Col. Bob Friend, shown with actress Loni Anderson at an event in 2013, was one of the last original members of the famed all-black Tuskegee Airmen. He has died at age 99.**

## WWII Tuskegee Airman Robert Friend dies at 99

Associated Press

LONG BEACH, Calif. — World War II pilot Robert Friend, one of the last original members of the famed all-black Tuskegee Airmen, has died at the age of 99.

Friend's daughter, Karen Friend Crumlich, told The Desert Sun her father died Friday at a Southern California hospital.

Born in South Carolina on 1920's leap day, Friend flew 142 combat missions in World War II as part of the elite group of fight-

er pilots trained at Alabama's Tuskegee Institute. The program was created after the NAACP began challenging policies barring black people from flying military aircraft.

Friend's 28-year Air Force career included service in the Korean and Vietnam wars. He also worked on space launch vehicles and served as foreign technology program director before retiring as a lieutenant colonel and forming his own aerospace company.

## WWII vet's nursing home death reviewed

Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Police have reopened the investigation into the 2015 death of a World War II veteran at a Michigan nursing home.

Walter Jarnot, 89, died in September 2015 after he choked while eating at the Glacier Hills nursing home in Ann Arbor. Charles Jarnot said the nursing

home told him his father died of natural causes. But the death certificate indicates that he died of asphyxiation.

Charles Jarnot is accusing the nursing home of negligence and failure to report his father's death to the Washtenaw County Medical Examiner's Office as required by state law.

Ann Arbor police reopened the case and are looking into possible

criminal charges at the county prosecutor's office, Ann Arbor Police Lt. Aimee Metzger said.

Washtenaw County Chief Assistant Prosecutor Steven Hill told Jarnot in a June 12 email that he's reviewing an investigative report on his father's death and considering whether an involuntary manslaughter charge can be applied.

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## PACIFIC

# Japan: Russian bombers violated airspace

BY CARLOS M. VAZQUEZ II  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Two Russian Tupolev Tu-95 bombers entered Japanese airspace Thursday morning over Minamidaito Island — east of Okinawa — and over Hachijo Island — southeast of Tokyo — according to a Japan Ministry of Defense spokeswoman.

The two missile-platform and strategic bombers first breached

Japan's airspace at 8:53 a.m. A single plane again entered the country's airspace at 10:21 a.m., the spokeswoman told Stars and Stripes on Friday. The rules of her job do not allow her to be named.

"Japan Air Self-Defense Force sent out fighter jets to warn these Russian [bombers]," the spokeswoman said. The aircraft "were in the airspace for three minutes."

The Russian Ministry of Defense denied the encroachment

took place, Russia's Tass news agency reported.

"The flight was carried out in strict compliance with the international rules of using international airspace, without any violations of the borders," Tass cited the ministry as saying.

Japanese Minister of Defense Takeshi Iwaya told reporters Friday morning that he was "deeply disappointed with the Russian bombers violating Japanese airspace twice in one day. We

strongly request that such a thing does not happen again."

In fiscal year 2018, the Defense Ministry counted 999 such incidents, the second-highest total since the country began scrambling aircraft in 1958. Within that fiscal year, Japanese pilots flew 343 sorties to intercept Russian aircraft, a 12% drop from 390 flown the previous fiscal year, the ministry said.

The remaining 638 sorties in fiscal 2018 were in response to

approaching Chinese drones, fighters, bombers and surveillance planes, according to statistics released by the ministry in April.

The last reported violation of Japan's airspace by what appeared to be Russian military aircraft was in September 2015 near the South Kuril Islands, which were annexed by the Soviet Union after World War II.

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SAMANTHA CRANE/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The crew of the destroyer USS Fitzgerald has unveiled a commemorative flag honoring the seven sailors who died in a collision with a merchant ship on June 17, 2017.

## USS Fitzgerald flies crew-designed flag that honors 7 collision victims

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
*Stars and Stripes*

Flags flew aboard the USS Fitzgerald for the first time in nearly two years — this time featuring a new flag designed to honor the seven sailors who died in the ship's June 17, 2017, collision off Japan's Izu Peninsula, according to a Navy statement Thursday.

On the second anniversary of the fatal crash involving the Fitzgerald and a Philippine-flagged container ship about 80 nautical miles southwest of Tokyo, the destroyer's commanding officer, Cmdr. Garrett Miller, unfurled the new flag that current crewmembers designed, according to the statement.

"I am proud of this flag and proud of our shipmates who helped design it, as it is a product of respect and professionalism that symbolizes their great service and sacrifice," Miller said in the statement.

The ship has been undergoing more than \$300 million worth

of repairs in Pascagoula, Miss., since January 2018.

The memorial flag is deep blue with white lettering, featuring the phrase "Don't Give Up the Ship" in large, bold font, according to a Navy photo.

"The motto is a common Navy phrase, but all Fitzgerald Sailors embodied that spirit on June 17, 2017, when they fought significant flooding and structural damage following the collision," the Navy said in the statement.

According to naval lore, the phrase was first uttered by Capt. James Lawrence, whose Frigate USS Chesapeake battled the HMS Shannon during the War of 1812. Lawrence died during the fight, and his dying words became a rallying cry.

Cmdr. Scott Wilbur, the Fitzgerald's executive officer, said in the statement that "the current crew continues to live out that motto while bringing the ship back to the fleet."

The flag also includes the date of the collision with the phrase

"Forever with the Fightin' Fitz" above the names and rates of the seven fallen sailors.

It was raised June 17 alongside the national ensign and Union Jack flags — the first time since November 2017 that flags flew over the ship, according to the statement.

Most of the work centered on the hull and topside structures damaged in the collision, the Navy said in an April statement. The Fitzgerald left dry dock in April and continues to undergo restoration and modernization in Pascagoula.

The new commemorative flag is not a permanent feature but will fly each June 17 "to honor [the fallen] and never to forget their sacrifice," Wilbur said in the statement.

"Fitzgerald's crew designed this flag from scratch as a way to embody those shipmates we lost," he said.

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## USMC relieves Hawaii air station commander over a liberty incident

*Stars and Stripes*

The commander of Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, has been relieved of his duties following an investigation into an April liberty incident.

Maj. Gen. Paul Rock Jr., commander of Marine Corps Installations Pacific, relieved Lt. Col. Nathaniel "Lips" Baker "due to a loss of trust and confidence in his ability to continue to serve in that position," the service said in the statement Thursday.

No other details were available.

"The Marine Corps holds all Marines, especially commanders, responsible for their actions, and is committed to upholding high standards of honor, courage and commitment within the ranks," the statement said.

Baker, who assumed command at Kaneohe Bay in June 2018, flew

2,900 hours in the EA-6B Prowler and served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, according to his official Marine Corps biography.

Kaneohe Bay air station is home to nearly 10,000 active-duty Marine and Navy personnel, according to the Marine Corps website.

news@stripes.com



Baker

## Japanese Huey breaks in half after forced landing

BY HANA KUSUMOTO  
*Stars and Stripes*

TOKYO — A Japan Ground Self-Defense Force helicopter was heavily damaged during landing practice Friday near the home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo, according to a Japanese military spokesman.

The UH-1 Iroquois, assigned to the Eastern Army Aviation Group, made a hard landing at 9:57 a.m. during training at Camp Tachikawa, the spokesman said. The rules of his job do not allow him to be named.

The two crewmembers of the downed helicopter were not injured in the accident, which broke the aircraft in half, the spokesman said.

The incident happened while they were practicing landing in case of an emergency in which the tail rotor had broken down,

the spokesman said. The helicopter lost its balance and landed on its tail due to pilot error.

An aerial photograph of the crash site published by the Yomiuri Shimbun shows the helicopter's tail separated from its cabin.

Japan's military is investigating the accident, the spokesman said.

The former U.S. facility, which was known as Tachikawa Air Base before it was returned to the government of Japan in 1977, is just over a mile away from Yokota Air Base, home of USFJ, 5th Air Force and the 374th Airlift Wing, which also operates the UH-1, known as the Huey.

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## MILITARY

## Hawaii senator's widow christens warship



Above: A crowd including Navy sailors in white uniforms attend the christening ceremony for the future USS Daniel Inouye at shipbuilder Bath Iron Works on Saturday in Bath, Maine. Right: Irene Hirano Inouye smiles after breaking a bottle of Champagne on the bow of a warship bearing the name of her late husband, Hawaii Sen. Daniel Inouye.

AP photos



By DAVID SHARP  
Associated Press

BATH, Maine — A Hawaii delegation brought a tropical flair to a state known for cold weather as a Navy destroyer bearing the name of the late Sen. Daniel Inouye was christened Saturday at Bath Iron Works.

There were flowery leis around the necks of dignitaries and a giant one on the warship itself as Irene Hirano Inouye, the ship's sponsor, smashed a bottle of Champagne on the bow of the future USS Daniel Inouye, which is under construction.

She said the Hawaiian touch was important.

"The traditions of the Navy are very special and historic. But to truly make it reflect of Dan's life, and the people on Hawaii, our team had to find ways to bring a little bit of Hawaii to Maine," she said before the ceremony.

Her late husband was a Medal of Honor recipient who broke racial barriers in Congress representing Hawaii in the U.S. Senate for a half-century until his death in 2012. He lost his right arm in combat in World War II in Italy with the mostly Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

The ship's motto — "Go For Broke" — was borrowed from the 442nd.

U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono, of Hawaii, thanked the ship's crew for "continuing in the tradition of Sen. Inouye's service to our country."

"To the crew, I wish you makani

'olu 'olu. I wish you all fair winds. Go for broke, as you serve the country on this incredible new ship," she told them.

In the Senate, Inouye served as chairman of the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee. Maine Sen. Susan Collins, who served with him, praised the senator's valor, his spirit and his friendship.

She noted that Inouye visited Bath Iron Works in 1961, while serving in the U.S. House, for the launching of the USS Leahy. She said that Inouye was a strong supporter of naval sea power.

Irene Hirano Inouye said her husband felt that a strong military is necessary to ensure peace.

"He was someone who saw the horrors of war firsthand," she told the crowd. "Dan always believed that the best way to avoid war is to have the strongest military that we could."

The Hawaiian tradition will continue when the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer is commissioned into service — its hometown will be Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Displacing more than 9,000 tons, the 510-foot ships can easily top 30 knots while simultaneously waging war with enemy ships, submarines, missiles and aircraft.

Their combat system uses powerful computers and a phased-array radar to track more than 100 targets. The ships are also equipped with ballistic missile defense capability.

## New Misawa Queen looks forward to serving as ambassador for US

By SETH ROBSON  
AND HANA KUSUMOTO  
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — An Air Force wrench turner will soon be turning heads at festivals all over northern Japan after being crowned as one of three Misawa Queens on Friday afternoon.

Airman 1st Class Brooklyn Shedd, 19, an air and space propulsionist from Tuscaloosa, Ala., will represent Misawa's American military community alongside a pair of Japanese queens for the next two years.

"I feel honored and grateful to be crowned queen for an amazing place like Misawa," she said. "I love the humble and welcoming atmosphere that the people of Misawa convey to their American counterparts."

Shedd, who has been in the Air Force for 14 months, answered questions in May along with other candidates in front of a board of other Air Force personnel before she was crowned.

"I thought it would be a good cultural experience to get to

know new people from the local area," she said of her new role. "I wanted to bridge the culture between America and Japan."

Shedd appeared in beauty pageants for four years back home in Alabama but never won until she came to Misawa, she said.

Now she's looking forward to being an ambassador for Misawa Air Base, attending nine festivals with the other queens and joining a sports team.

Shedd has taken a liking to Japanese food and plans to start a Japanese language course next month.

Misawa started selecting beauty queens to represent the city four years ago, according to Hikari Mikami, of the Misawa Tourist Association.

However, the practice of American personnel entering Japanese beauty pageants dates back much farther. Stars and Stripes published a photograph of Jaquelin Randall, then 18, of Misawa Air Base, being crowned alongside two Japanese winners of a local beauty pageant on Aug. 11, 1960.

Misawa Queens must be be-

tween 18 and 28 and live in the southern part of Aomori prefecture. Their duties include attending events promoting the city of Misawa, according to an advertisement that sought applicants for the positions.

The Misawa Queens also act as models in guidebooks showing recommended sites and items, Mikami said.

The other Misawa Queens said they were excited to work alongside Shedd.

"I think it's fantastic to work together with an American queen," said Yume Fukushima, 27, who works at a local car dealer. "This is the only place where Japanese and foreign queens work together, and I think it is great."

Fukushima said she hopes to show Shedd how Japanese women think and what Japanese people think of Misawa and the base.

"I think there are things that she doesn't know about Japan and Misawa," said queen Aroha Sawamura, 22, who works at a local bank. "I hope to enjoy festivals and other events in Misawa and learn about the city with her



BRITTANY CHASE/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Airman 1st Class Brooklyn Shedd, center, an air and space propulsionist assigned to Misawa Air Base, Japan, poses with fellow Misawa queens and city officials after being crowned on Friday.

to promote and tell others the great aspects of the city."

Sawamura also said she wants to tell people that Misawa is a foreigner-friendly town. "It is normal to see foreigners in town," she said, adding that she often meets Americans when she goes out.

"Even though we don't speak English, they talk to us and they are all very nice," she said.

Events such as American Day and barbecues are examples of the mixed culture of Misawa, Shedd added.

"People in Misawa feel comfortable with foreigners," she said.

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## MIDEAST



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Protesters hold signs spelling out "No War" outside the White House on Thursday. An Iranian general warned Sunday a conflict with Iran would endanger lives of U.S. forces.

## Iranian general warns of consequences of war

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — An Iranian military commander warned Sunday that any conflict with Iran would have uncontrollable consequences across the region and endanger the lives of U.S. forces as tensions between Washington and Tehran have flared after the downing of an American surveillance drone.

Maj. Gen. Gholamali Rashid made the remarks while addressing Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guard Corps during a field visit to a command center for Iranian radars and missile systems. The general oversees and coordinates joint military operations in the Iranian Armed Forces.

"The U.S. administration should behave in a responsible way to protect the lives of American forces," he was quoted as saying in comments published by the semi-official Fars news agency.

Rashid said that if war breaks out, the scope and duration of the conflict would be uncontrollable and blamed any escalation on "U.S. interventionist policy."

His comments came as tensions were running high in the Persian Gulf as the Trump administration combines a "maximum pressure" campaign of economic sanctions

on Iran with a buildup of American forces in the region.

The latest flareup came when Iran said it shot down a U.S. drone Thursday and that it elected not to fire on a U.S. spy plane with a crew of more than 30 people that was flying in the area at the same time.

President Donald Trump backed away from plans for a retaliatory military strike after learning 150 people would be killed. He said, however, such action is "always on the table until we get this solved."

Also Sunday, during an open session of Iran's parliament, lawmakers chanted "death to America" when acting parliament speaker Masoud Pezeshkian condemned what he said was the violation of Iranian airspace by the U.S. drone. The chant dates back to before Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution and remains a staple of hard-line demonstrations.

Tensions between the U.S. and Iran are rooted in a decision by the Trump administration to withdraw from the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers. Washington has also imposed sanctions, including on Iranian oil exports, aimed at crippling the country's economy and forcing policy changes.

# Trump OK'd US cyberstrikes against Iran's missile system

BY ELLEN NAKASHIMA

The Washington Post

President Donald Trump approved an offensive cyberstrike that disabled Iranian computer systems used to control rocket and missile launches even as he backed away from a conventional military attack in response to its shoot-down Thursday of an unmanned U.S. surveillance drone, according to people familiar with the matter.

The cyberstrikes, launched Thursday night by personnel with U.S. Cyber Command, were in the works for weeks if not months, according to two of those people, who said the Pentagon proposed launching them after Iran's alleged attacks on two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman earlier this month.

The strike against the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps was coordinated with U.S. Central Command, the military organization with purview of activity throughout the Middle East, those people said. They spoke on a condition of anonymity because the operation remains extremely sensitive.

Though crippling to Iran's military command and control systems, the operation did not involve a loss of life or civilian casualties — a contrast to recent airstrikes, which the president said he called back Thursday because they would not be "proportionate."

The administration on Saturday warned industry officials to be alert for cyberattacks originating from Iran.

The White House declined to comment, as did officials at U.S. Cyber Command. Pentagon spokeswoman Elissa Smith said, "As a matter of policy and for operational security, we do not discuss cyberspace operations, intelligence or planning."

The cyberstrikes were first reported by Yahoo News.

"This operation imposes costs on the growing Iranian cyber threat, but also serves to defend the United States Navy and shipping operations in the Strait of Hormuz," said Thomas Bossert, a former senior White House cyber official in the Trump administration.

"Our U.S. military has long known that we could sink every IRGC vessel in the strait within 24 hours if necessary," he said. "And this is the modern version of what the U.S. Navy has to do to defend itself at sea and keep international shipping lanes free from Iranian disruptions."

Thursday's strikes against the IRGC represented the first offensive show of force since Cyber Command was elevated to a full combatant command in May. It leveraged new authorities, granted by the president, that have streamlined the approval process for such measures.

It is also a reflection of a new Cyber Command strategy — called "defending forward" — that its leader, Gen. Paul Nakasone, has defined as operating "against our enemies on their virtual territory."

The digital strike was an example of what national security adviser John Bolton meant when he suggested recently that the United States is stepping up offensive cyberactivity, two people said. "We're now opening the aperture, broadening the areas we're prepared to act in," Bolton said at a Wall Street Journal conference.

The United States in April designated the IRGC as a foreign terrorist organization in response to its destabilizing behavior across the Middle East.

Iranian cyberforces have tried to hack U.S. naval ships and navigation capabilities in the Persian Gulf region for the last few years. The Strait of Hormuz is a strategically important sea lane through which about one-fifth of the world's oil passes daily.

On Saturday, the Department of Homeland Security issued a warning to U.S. industry that Iran has stepped up its cyber targeting of critical industries — to include oil, gas and other energy sectors — and government agencies, and has the potential to disrupt or destroy systems.

"There's no question that there's been an increase in Iranian cyber activity," said Christopher Krebs, director of DHS' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. "Iranian actors and their proxies are not just your garden variety run-of-the-mill data thieves. These are the guys that come in and they burn the house down."

Krebs, in an interview, said, "We need everyone to take the current situation very seriously. Look at any potential incidents that you have and treat them as a worst-case scenario. This is not your waiting until you have a data breach. ... This is about losing control of your environment, about losing control of your computer."

The National Security Agency also urged industry to be vigilant. "In these times of heightened tensions, it is appropriate for everyone to be alert to signs of Iranian aggression in cyberspace and ensure appropriate defenses are in place," NSA spokesman Greg Julian said in a statement Saturday.

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## Realities: Official says ships poised to strike if called upon

FROM FRONT PAGE

A review of Iran's weapons shows that many of them are "obsolete, obsolescent, or of relatively low quality," according to a 2018 report by the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The report adds, however, that Tehran's ballistic and cruise missiles, air defenses and use of proxy forces can "scarcely be ignored."

A senior U.S. defense official, speaking on the condition of anonymity due to the matter's extreme sensitivity, said Friday that ships accompanying the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln were poised to strike if called upon. They included the USS Bainbridge, a destroyer, and the USS Leyte Gulf, a guided missile

cruiser, both of which can carry Tomahawk missiles, the official said.

U.S. military officials on Friday declined to say whether the Lincoln and its accompanying ships are on standby waiting to carry out an operation, or whether a strike was imminent.

"The U.S. Central Command retains a robust military capability in the region that is ready to respond to any crisis," said Army Lt. Col. Earl Brown, a military spokesman. "The United States does not seek conflict with Iran, but we are postured and ready to defend U.S. forces and interests in the region."

Among the weapons that Iran possesses are anti-aircraft missile systems like the S-300, which can

target objects at altitudes of 15 miles. Tehran also has a fleet of more than 300 aircraft, although nothing nearly as advanced as what the U.S. Air Force flies. The aircraft include Russian-made MiG-29 fighters and Su-24 bombers and legacy American aircraft that the Pentagon has retired, such as the F-4. Iran bought them from the U.S. before its 1979 revolution, according to the CRS.

At sea, Iran's navy is believed to operate a fleet that includes more than 100 vessels, about half of which are small, quick-moving vessels that would not stand up well to American destroyers but could grind maritime traffic to a halt by laying mines and harassing commercial ships.

It is the actions of the Revolu-

tionary Guard and Iran's proxy forces that have alarmed U.S. officials. The U.S. government has attributed numerous attacks to them globally over the last 20 years, and the Pentagon said this year that it believed Iranian proxy forces were responsible for the deaths of at least 608 U.S. troops in Iraq during the eight-year war spawned by the American invasion in 2003.

Last week, the Pentagon said it was deploying 1,000 more troops to the Middle East to deter Iran. After a few days, it clarified that those forces include a Patriot battalion, which is used for air defenses, manned and unmanned surveillance aircraft, fighter jets and support planes, and "other deterrence capabilities."

## EUROPE

# Bullying: DODEA not accountable to same authorities as stateside schools

## FROM FRONT PAGE

The stories told to Stars and Stripes by DODEA parents and former employees portray a school system mired in inertia and lacking in transparency and accountability. While abusive teachers exist in other systems, public and private, those schools answer to school boards or state departments of education.

But complaints or concerns about DODEA schools are addressed by DODEA itself, leading parents to believe they have few rights and less recourse when dealing with apparent teacher misconduct. Not even base commanders have authority over DODEA on many matters, though they may have some input.

"It's like the fox watching the hen house," said Elizabeth Wright, the mother of a special needs fourth grader.

## 'Pegged him as broken'

The Wrights' son started third grade at Patch Elementary School in Stuttgart in 2017. Elizabeth and Col. Jason Wright had adopted their son from foster care when he was 3. The boy had experienced early childhood trauma and was diagnosed with anxiety but showed no significant behavioral or academic problems at his school in Texas, the Wrights said.

Their experience at the DODEA school in Stuttgart was markedly different.

Their son's third grade teacher told the Wrights he was "scary" and "the worst child" she had ever seen, the parents told Stars and Stripes. He was constantly scolding the son and soon fell behind academically.

"They saw a black, adopted kid and pegged him as broken," Elizabeth Wright said.

In fourth grade, when the Wrights' son was put on an individualized education plan, or IEP, his learning disability, the alleged abuse worsened.

As part of his IEP, the Wrights' son had permission to seek a "safe space" when he felt anxious or frustrated. Usually, he would go sit in a nearby office, but his teacher shamed him for missing class time, locked him out of the classroom if he left and sometimes refused to let him leave at all, Elizabeth Wright said.

At home, their son started to call himself "a monster," she said.

Elizabeth Wright said the trauma her son experienced as a toddler left him with a fear response, where he kicks doors, pushes things onto the floor and looks out of control. That behavior is often mistaken for aggression or defiance, but he is not a threat, she said.

"We tried to inform educators (at Patch) on what trauma response or triggers look like," she said, but nothing changed and the teacher stopped communicating with the family.

The Wrights wrote to the DODEA Europe East superintendent, asking for the school to

be investigated and, when that went unheeded, filed a due process complaint alleging that the school had failed to provide their son with the fair and appropriate education he is guaranteed by law.

District officials asked the Wrights to withdraw the complaint to allow them to do the original investigation, Jason Wright said. That investigation was conducted in February; the Wrights are still waiting for the written results.

"They talked to all the people we thought they should talk to," Jason Wright said. "They drew up recommendations and plans ... of what they would do and how they would approach this and shared parts of that with us over the phone."

"But it was not anything that we could hold in our hands," he said. "Show us in writing what you're doing, what you've done, what your next steps are. If you have to redact some of that, so be it. We're still waiting on that."

In March, the Wrights heard of another incident involving their child from Patch to Stuttgart Elementary School and filed a discrimination complaint with DODEA.

Less than a month later, DODEA closed the Wrights' case, citing, in a letter signed by DODEA Europe East Chief of Staff Louis D'Angelo, the fact that the parents had moved their child from Patch to Stuttgart Elementary School and had "effectively removed your son from the setting where you alleged discrimination was present, thus resolving the situation without additional action required."

The Wrights were outraged. "This isn't just about our son," Elizabeth Wright said. "We still don't know if there has been any accountability. In the end, we had to remove our son, and he's still hurt — just because we are no longer at that school doesn't erase what happened to him."

## 'He was in a box'

The Balfour family had a similar experience with their son, Bryson, after moving to Germany in November 2017.

The family thought Bryson's tears and anxiety were caused by the stress of moving overseas and changing schools. But a paraprofessional who worked with Bryson tipped them off that there might be a deeper, more specific reason.

Special education paraprofessional Erica Camacho had seen how, if Bryson wrote outside the lines, the teacher would make him erase his work and rewrite it, sometimes spending hours to get it right.

She had seen Bryson being punished for forgetting a word. She'd seen the teacher tell him to stand in a corner, facing the wall, barricaded by gym mats, sometimes for 45 minutes or more.

"He was in a box, so he couldn't look out the window or over his shoulder at what the other students were doing," said Camacho,

who had worked with Bryson since the spring of 2018.

"I would come home and tell my husband ... I must be going crazy because what I was taught ... the laws that I know protect (special education) students are supposed to apply no matter where we are," Camacho said. "But no one seems to be saying anything."

Bryson's saga hit its nadir last year for Camacho. As Bryson quietly sang a song in class to soothe himself and stop his tears, Camacho recalled how the teacher said to her, "Look at him. He's crazy."

"He heard her, and he told her, 'I'm not crazy,' and started hysterically crying," Camacho said. "He was crying so much, he had snot coming down his face," she added. That's when the teacher held a mirror in front of the boy and told him he looked disgusting.

"I was, like, no way this is normal. I almost started to cry," she said.

Camacho said she didn't trust the principal enough to report the incident to her, so she encouraged the family to ask Bryson specific questions about his day.

## Substantiated abuse

Soon after the incident, Family Advocacy received an anonymous complaint alleging abusive behavior by Bryson's teacher. The Balfours and Camacho said they were not behind the complaint.

In late October, Family Advocacy substantiated emotional abuse claims against Bryson's teacher, according to a copy of a memorandum, which the Balfours shared with Stars and Stripes.

Bryson and another boy were moved to a different classroom. The teacher was placed on administrative leave while an investigation was conducted. She returned to the same classroom after the investigation was completed, but was later moved to a different school, the Balfours said.

In November, the Balfours asked DODEA to conduct an internal investigation into what happened in their son's classroom and how the school handled the incident.

At first, there was no response. But, four months later, the base commander of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, Col. Neal Corson, heard about the Balfours' issues with the school and pledged to push for an investigation. At the same time, however, he stressed he did not have the authority to tell DODEA what to do.

Corson's interest in the case appeared to get things rolling, but the process soon stalled again. DODEA referred the investigation to the community superintendent, who interviewed the Balfours, Camacho and others in April. The Balfours say there has been no follow-up.

"The intent of the system is to wait you out," Edward Balfour said.

The Balfours were fed up. The family requested an early return to the States so Bryson can attend



JOHN VANOVER/Stars and Stripes

**Candace Balfour and Sgt. 1st Class Edward Balfour sit with their children in their home at Robinson Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany. Bryson Washington sits on the floor with a book. The Balfours requested an early return to the States so Bryson can attend a private school that can accommodate his needs when he starts middle school in the fall.**

a private school that can accommodate his needs when he starts middle school in the fall.

"Even though we heard great things about the middle school (in Stuttgart), it's still the same school system, the same leadership," Candace Balfour said. "They've lost our respect and trust. I don't want to put our family through that another year."

## Systemic differences

In the last three years, 65 DODEA teachers have been terminated. Because DODEA says it cannot go into detail about individual cases, and because as federal employees DODEA teachers are protected by strict privacy laws, it's impossible to report how many of those teachers were fired for abusive behavior toward children.

Information about teacher disciplinary actions is more transparent in public school districts stateside.

The Texas Education Agency, for example, lists on its website teachers who have been suspended, reprimanded, surrendered their teaching license or had it revoked or been the subject of other disciplinary action.

In Pennsylvania, the public can submit educator misconduct complaints to the department of education using an online form, and disciplinary action taken against teachers is published on the department's website.

Stars and Stripes chose not to name the teachers described in this story for now because they are not public figures and because not all had been formally investigated by DODEA or charged by law enforcement — though the parents and other educators interviewed said that a lack of proper investigation is at the heart of the problem.

Three of the DODEA teachers described in this story were contacted for comment. Two did not respond, while Bryson's former teacher referred inquiries to Jan Freeman, a lawyer at the Federal Education Association, the largest DODEA teacher's union.

Freeman said that while she cannot comment on an ongoing investigation, FEA supports the process "and we are confident that the facts will emerge."

In the 2018-19 school year, there were six reported allegations of child abuse involving DODEA employees in Europe, DODEA spokesman Will Griffin said. He did not say how many of those allegations were substantiated.

Some in the Stuttgart community say that number is too low, and that abuse often goes unreported because employees are afraid to speak up.

Griffin said that DODEA employees are required to take action if they become aware of abusive conduct.

"We do not tolerate abusive conduct of any kind in our schools, regardless of who the perpetrator may be," Griffin said, adding that "any employee who becomes aware of abusive conduct has a legal and ethical obligation to act, whether it is in a reporting or investigative capacity."

Judy Rae Merhar, a former long-term substitute at Hainerberg Elementary School in Wiesbaden, met that obligation after a kindergarten teacher reportedly told a black boy he looked like "an ape without a brain in his body." The same teacher routinely punished kids by making them stand alone in the bathroom or outside the classroom.

Merhar documented the educator's behavior for nearly three months last year and filed a report with the principal.

The teacher was removed from the classroom for the last two weeks of school but returned last fall.

Merhar said no one interviewed her or any of the parents about the teacher's conduct, but the school did ask Merhar whether she would be satisfied if they put the teacher through counseling and training.

No, she replied, that wouldn't go far enough. "She should not be teaching any children."

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## NATION

# Trump delays nationwide immigration sweep

## Lawmakers given 2 weeks to work out border solution

BY COLLEEN LONG  
AND LISA MASCARO  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Saturday delayed a nationwide immigration sweep to deport people living in the United States illegally, including families, saying he would give lawmakers two weeks to work out solutions for the southern border.

The move came after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called Trump on Friday asking him to call off the raids. But three administration officials said scrapping the operation was not just about politics. They said Immigration and Customs Enforcement leaders had expressed serious concerns that officers' safety would be in jeopardy because too many details about the raids had been made public.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to speak about private discussions.

"At the request of Democrats, I have delayed the Illegal Immigration Removal Process (Deportation) for two weeks to see if the Democrats and Republicans can get together and work out a solution to the Asylum and Loophole problems at the Southern Border," Trump wrote on Twitter. "If not, Deportations start!"

The operation, which sparked outrage and concern among immigrant advocates, had been expected to begin Sunday and



ANDREA SMITH/AP

**Diana Solorio, right, Hines Law vice president of finances and administration, speaks about immigrant rights in Atlanta on June 20. President Donald Trump on Saturday delayed a nationwide immigration enforcement sweep for two weeks.**

would target people with final orders of removal, including families whose immigration cases had been fast-tracked by judges.

The cancellation was another sign of the Trump administration's difficulty managing the border crisis. The number of people crossing the U.S.-Mexico border has risen dramatically under Trump despite his tough rhetoric and hard-line policies. Bal-

ancing a White House eager to push major operational changes with the reality on the ground is a constant challenge for the Department of Homeland Security.

Trump gave the first public word of the planned sweep last week, saying in a tweet that an operation was coming up and the agency would begin to remove "millions" of people who were in the United States il-

legally. Later, leaks to the media included sensitive law enforcement details, such as the day it was to begin, Sunday, plus specific cities and other operational details.

On Saturday, ICE spokeswoman Carol Danko criticized the leaks in the context of their potential impact on ICE personnel, saying in a statement that "any leaks telegraphing sensitive law enforcement operations is egregious and puts our officers' safety in danger."

Pelosi called Trump on Friday night and the two spoke for about 12 minutes, according to a person familiar with the situation and not authorized to discuss it publicly. She asked him to call off the raids and he said he would consider the request, the person said.

Coordinated enforcement operations take months to plan. Surprise is also an important element. ICE officers don't have a search warrant and are working from files with addresses and must go to people's home and ask to be let inside. Immigrants are not required to open their doors, and increasingly they don't. Officers generally capture about 30% to 40% of targets.

The planned operation was heavily criticized by Democratic lawmakers as cruel, and many local mayors said they would refuse to cooperate with ICE. Immigrant advocates stepped up know-your-rights campaigns.

Another complication is that ICE needs travel paperwork from a home country to deport someone, so immigrants often end up detained at least temporarily waiting for a flight.

## Internment camp survivors protest Fort Sill migrant center

BY MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE  
Los Angeles Times

FORT SILL, Okla. — With the Trump administration planning to move 1,400 migrant children to this fortified Army post later this summer, small groups of Japanese American World War II internment camp survivors came to the gates Saturday to make their opposition known.

"We are here today to protest the repetition of history," said camp survivor Satsuki Ina, 75, of San Francisco, one of about two dozen former internees and their descendants in attendance.

Met by uniformed military police, the protesters, some in their 80s, were told they did not have permission to congregate and might face arrest.

"You need to move right now!" one of the officers yelled. "What don't you understand? It's English. Get out."

But the survivors, carrying thousands of origami paper cranes, or tsuru, as a symbol of solidarity, refused to leave without speaking, standing their ground until police from adjacent Lawton arrived and allowed them to talk. They then moved to a nearby park where a crowd of about 200 was waiting.

Fort Sill has become a rallying point for Japanese Americans hoping to prevent migrant detention in what they call concentration camps, some built on the sites where they and their fami-



PHOTOS BY SCOTT RAINS, THE LAWTON (OKLA.) CONSTITUTION/AP

**Above: Satsuki Ina, 75, hangs origami cranes Thursday as part of the Tsuru for Solidarity protest against the Trump administration's plans to house migrant children at Fort Sill U.S. Army post. Left: Dressed in traditional wear, former long-time Fort Sill Apache Chairman Jeff Hazous speaks out against the plans.**

lies were interned during World War II.

About 120,000 Japanese Americans, including families and children, were held at about a dozen camps during the war, some for years. Italians and Germans were also held at the camps, built in remote western outposts.

The Fort Sill Army post has now been designated an emergency shelter and is scheduled to house children who have crossed the border from Mexico unaccompanied by adults. The post

was last used to house 1,861 migrant children in 2014.

By law, the Border Patrol can hold such children for up to 72 hours and must then turn them over to Department of Health and Human Services officials, who place them in a network of 168 detention centers in 23 states.

Those lockups have filled, leading the agency to add a 2,400-bed facility in Homestead, Fla., as they have for the last two years. Officials plan to open the Fort Sill lockup later this summer and a

1,600-bed facility at a former oil-field worker housing complex in Carrizo Springs, Texas, later this month near the site of the World War II internment camp of Crystal City.

In all, federal officials are opening tents and emergency lockups for an influx of nearly 600,000 migrants on the southern border this year, mostly families and children unaccompanied by adults, many from Central America.

U.S. Customs and Border Pro-

tection has crammed 15,000 migrants into temporary border holding areas designed for only 4,000 people. On Friday, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announced he was sending 1,000 National Guard troops to the border, doubling the number deployed, to assist at temporary holding areas. The Border Patrol has asked Congress for emergency funding to care for migrants, and a \$4.5 billion House proposal is scheduled for a vote in the coming week.

During the Obama administration, Oklahoma's Republican leaders opposed lockups such as Fort Sill, but they are now defending them. Sens. Jim Inhofe and James Lankford joined Rep. Tom Cole, also of Oklahoma, to issue a joint statement calling the facility a necessary, temporary solution to the border crisis.

"We should always remember where we came from to avoid repeating grave mistakes," Lankford said in a separate statement, adding that to liken the migrant detention centers to internment camps "is a false equivalency."

"What happened then is not what is happening now," he said. "... Every country now knows if you come into our country with a child, you will be released. It is our responsibility to ensure the security and safety of all the children coming into our country, and I have confidence that will be done properly at Fort Sill."



## NATION

# Death toll raised in skydiving plane crash

By KATIE METTLER  
The Washington Post

Eleven people were killed Friday night when a skydiving plane crashed near Dillingham Airfield on the northern shore of Oahu in Hawaii.

First responders were called to the airport about 6:30 p.m. and found the twin-engine Beechcraft King Air plane "fully engulfed in flames," far from the Mokuleia runway, Manuel Neves, chief of the Honolulu Fire Department, told reporters at the scene.

Authorities have not released the names of those killed. Family members were at the airport tower when the plane crashed, Neves told the Star-Advertiser.

Authorities first said that nine people had perished, but on Saturday afternoon the medical examiner's office for the city and county of Honolulu confirmed



DENNIS ODA, HONOLULU STAR-ADVERTISER/AP

**A memorial is seen at the site where a Beechcraft King Air twin-engine plane crashed Friday evening, killing multiple people, near the fence surrounding Dillingham Airfield in Mokuleia, Hawaii.**

the number had increased to 11 victims.

Steven Tickemeyer told The As-

sociated Press that he saw the plane take flight, get 75 to 100 feet off the ground and turn away

from the mountain range nearby.

He said the plane started to nosedive, then flipped over belly forward so that it was upside down. The aircraft then flipped over again, and hit the ground nose first. He said there was an explosion when it hit the ground.

Tickemeyer told the AP this all happened in about 20 to 30 seconds.

It remains unclear if the plane was taking off from the airport or attempting to land, though the Federal Aviation Administration said in a statement that preliminary information indicates the plane was taking off.

Neves told local media that his department was turning over the investigation to state authorities and awaiting instruction from the FAA.

Two FAA inspectors arrived at the site Friday, the FAA said

in a statement. The National Transportation Safety Board said Saturday morning that it was launching a "go team" to Oahu to investigate the crash.

Preliminary reports indicated that at least six of the people on the plane were employees of Oahu Parachute Center and three were customers, Hawaii Department of Transportation spokesperson Tim Sakahara told the Star-Advertiser. The Oahu Parachute Center website advertises tandem dive trips at sunset.

Dillingham Airfield is a general aviation airport operated by the Hawaii DOT, according to its website. It hosts one 5,000-foot runway used primarily for small private planes and commercial skydiving and glider operations. Hawaii shares the airfield with the Army, which uses it for helicopter night-vision training.



MATT ROUINKE/AP

**Flames and smoke emerge from the Philadelphia Energy Solutions Refining Complex in Philadelphia on Friday. The cause of a fire and three explosions at the site remains unclear.**

## Explosions, fire rock Pa. oil refinery

By MATT ROUINKE  
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Explosions and a blaze at the largest oil refinery on the East Coast sent a fireball into the sky and shook homes before dawn Friday, though authorities reported only a few minor injuries and said the air was safe to breathe.

The fire at the Philadelphia Energy Solutions Refining Complex was deemed contained and controlled but continued to burn late Friday afternoon, said Craig Murphy, deputy fire commissioner.

The fire broke out around 4 a.m., PES spokeswoman Cherice Corley said. Video showed the enormous orange blast bursting into the sky about 20 minutes later.

Five refinery workers were treated for minor injuries, and nearby residents were asked to stay inside.

The cause of the fire was still unclear. Three explosions, felt miles away, went off as the fire worked its way through the tangle of pipes carrying fuel across the complex, Corley said. It happened at the Girard Point refinery, one of two at the PES complex in southern Philadelphia.

The fire happened at a tank containing a mix of butane and propane, Murphy said. The blaze was still being fed by a main, he said, but it was unsafe for workers to access the valve to shut it off. If firefighters extinguished the blaze, the gases would continue to bleed into the atmosphere, he said.

"It is safer if it burns itself out; otherwise, the product would be looking for an ignition source," he said. "Right now, it is contained and controlled."

Air samples taken both downwind and upwind from the refinery have been tested, and no threat to public safety has been found, the city's health department said in a statement.

It was the second blaze at the refinery this month, following a June 10 fire in which no injuries were reported.

Gasoline prices in the Northeast could rise over the next few weeks as a result of the explosion, but an increase isn't likely to last long, said Claudio Galimberti, a refining analyst at S&P Global Platts.

## Bikers, military vets mourn 7 killed in rural highway crash

By MICHAEL CASEY  
AND PATRICK WHITTLE  
Associated Press

RANDOLPH, N.H. — Motorcycleists and military veterans mourned Sunday as authorities sought help in determining why a pickup collided with a group of bikers on a rural highway Friday, killing seven of them.

The crash in remote northern New Hampshire involved members of Marine JarHeads MC, a motorcycle club that includes Marines and their spouses. Authorities said they might begin identifying victims by name as soon as Sunday.

The tragedy left the close-knit motorcycle community in shock, with many remembering their own close calls on the road.

"Seven people. C'mon. It's senseless," said Bill Brown, 73, a Vietnam War veteran and motorcyclist who visited the accident scene Saturday to put down flags. "Somebody made a mistake, and it turned out to be pretty deadly." A pickup towing a flatbed trailer collided with the group of 10 motorcycles around 6:30 p.m. Friday on U.S. 2, a two-lane highway in the tiny North Woods community of Randolph. The pickup caught fire, and witnesses described a "devastating" scene as bystanders tried to help the injured amid shattered motorcycles.

This weekend's long-planned "Blessing of the Bikes" ceremony an hour to the north of the accident was expected to be especially emotional this year.

Meanwhile, members of the motorcycle community had already begun organizing help for the victims' families, said Cat



MIRANDA THOMPSON/AP

**Motorcycles and debris are scattered on a rural, two-lane highway in Randolph, N.H., where several motorcycles and a pickup collided Friday.**

Wilson, who organizes a motorcycle charity event in Massachusetts and is a friend of some of the crash victims.

Investigators on Saturday identified the pickup driver as Volodymyr Zhukovskyy, 23, an employee of Westfield Transport, a company in Springfield, Mass. Zhukovskyy survived the accident, did not need to be hospitalized and has not been charged, authorities said.

The National Transportation Safety Board is among the agencies investigating. Authorities asked for the public's help in the form of videos, photos or other information about the accident or the vehicles involved.

"This is one of the worst tragic incidents that we have investigated here in the state," New Hampshire State Police Col. Chris Wagner said Saturday. "It's going to be a very lengthy investigation."

## NATION

# White House unveils \$50B Palestinian economic plan

By MATTHEW LEE  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration on Saturday unveiled a \$50 billion Palestinian investment and infrastructure proposal intended to be the economic engine to power its much-anticipated but still unreleased “deal of the century” Middle East peace plan.

The scheme, which calls for a mix of public and private financing and intends to create at least a million new jobs for Palestinians, was posted to the White House website ahead of a two-day conference in Bahrain that is being held amid heavy skepticism about its viability and outright opposition from the Palestinians. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Saturday reiterated his rejection of the proposal and the conference.

The “Peace to Prosperity” workshop on Tuesday and Wednesday will also take place amid heightened regional tensions over Iran that threaten to overshadow its goals.

With no official participation from the two main protagonists, Israel and the Palestinians, and scant enthusiasm from others, continued uncertainty and strong

doubts over the plan’s political vision and the distraction of potential U.S.-Iran conflict, expectations are decidedly low. President Donald Trump’s senior adviser and son-in-law Jared Kushner faces high hurdles in building support for the initiative.

The 10-year plan calls for projects worth \$27.5 billion in the West Bank and Gaza and \$9.1 billion, \$7.4 billion and \$6.3 billion for Palestinians in Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon, respectively. Projects envisioned include those in the health care, education, power, water, high-tech, tourism and agriculture sectors. It calls for the creation of a “master fund” to administer the finances and implementation of the projects that it says are akin to the Marshall Plan that rebuilt Europe after World War II.

The plan foresees more than doubling the Palestinian gross domestic product, reducing the Palestinian poverty rate by 50% and cutting the sky-high Palestinian unemployment rate to nearly single digits, according to the documents, which do not specify exactly how the projects will be funded.

It also calls for linking the West Bank and Gaza with a modern transportation network, includ-

ing high-speed rail service. Such ideas have been floated in the past in previous peace proposals but have run into Israeli security concerns.

“Generations of Palestinians have lived under adversity and loss, but the next chapter can be defined by freedom and dignity,” the White House said, calling the plan “the most ambitious international effort for the Palestinian people to date.”

But an already tough sell that has vexed U.S. administrations for decades is made tougher not least because Trump and his aides have refused to endorse a two-state solution to the conflict that has long been seen as the only viable path to lasting peace.

They have also suggested they are open to unilateral Israeli annexation of occupied territory in the West Bank. Officials say there is no intention of discussing either issue or the most contentious parts of their proposal to end the long-running conflict.

Palestinian leaders, angered by what they and their supporters see as blatant U.S. bias toward Israel, want nothing to do with the workshop and will not participate. The Palestinians have called for mass demonstrations against the conference this week.

## Harris, Warren, others counter Joe Biden’s electability argument

By BILL BARROW  
AND MEG KINNARD  
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Standing before a throng of party faithful in a key early primary state, Joe Biden’s leading rivals for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination sought Saturday to undercut the former vice president’s argument that he’s the ideal Democrat to oust President Donald Trump.

They did it without mentioning the 76-year-old front-runner at all. Biden, in turn, didn’t mention them either.

California Sen. Kamala Harris charged straight at Trump as she addressed hundreds of activists at the South Carolina Democratic Party Convention.

“We need somebody on our stage when it comes time for that general election who knows how to recognize a rap sheet when they see it and prosecute the case,” Harris said, playing off her experience as a state and local prosecutor as she shredded Trump on a litany of policy fronts.

Then, in a seeming reference to Biden, the 54-year-old senator added that South Carolina voters mustn’t “turn back the clock” but instead, “Let’s start the next



MEG KINNARD/AP

**California Sen. Kamala Harris addresses the South Carolina Democratic Party convention on Saturday in Columbia, S.C.**

chapter. Let’s turn the page.”

It was a demonstration that Biden, who’s drawn fire in recent weeks for his reversal on opposing taxpayer funding of abortion and his recollections of working with long-dead segregationist senators, won’t become the Democratic nominee without an intense fight, no matter his front-runner’s strategy.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren pitched her progressive policies as an agenda with wide reach. “People across this na-

tion understand it is time for big, structural change in America. The time for small ideas is over,” Warren said, adding the approach can draw in Democrats and Republicans.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, meanwhile, pushed back at a centrist Democratic group, “Third Way,” and some of its members’ assertions that his democratic socialism is an “existential threat” to the party’s 2020 hopes.

Sanders countered that his left-flank agenda can win the White House. “We defeat Trump by running a campaign of energy and enthusiasm that substantially grows voter turnout ... in a way we have never seen,” he said.

Biden had the luxury of the last word Saturday, using his draw as the last of 20 candidates at the rostrum to deliver a rapid-fire litany of policy proposals, including a new pitch for \$8,000 tax credit for child care services.

The former vice president avoided mention of his recent spat with New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, who’d called for the former vice president to apologize after recalling how he had to work with virulent segregationists when he was first elected to the Senate in 1972.



SUSAN WALSH/AP

**President Donald Trump speaks to reporters on the South Lawn of the White House on Saturday before boarding Marine One for a trip to Camp David in Maryland.**

## Trump says he’d rather face Biden than others

By WILL WEISSERT  
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — President Donald Trump said Sunday that he’d prefer to run for re-election against Joe Biden, suggesting that the former vice president won’t be the “great candidate” Hillary Clinton was in 2016.

Trump told NBC’s “Meet the Press” that Clinton was “very smart. She was very tough. She was ruthless and vicious.”

Asked if he’d rather face Clinton again, the president said, “I would actually rather run against Biden” because “Sleepy Joe. He’s sleepy. She was not sleepy.”

That’s a nickname the president has attempted to hang on Biden for weeks, and Trump has also previously suggested that he’d prefer to face the former vice president in next year’s election. He told reporters before flying to Iowa earlier this month that Biden is “the weakest mentally and I like running against people that are weak mentally.”

Biden leads early polls in the crowded field. Democrats seeking their party’s presidential nomination. He’s largely shrugged off Trump’s insults so far, saying while campaigning in Iowa recently, “I guess he’s really fascinated by me.”

Trump suggested Sunday that he wasn’t prepared to lose his reelection bid. When asked specifically by “Meet the Press” host

Chuck Todd, he responded, “No. Probably not.”

“It would be much better, it would be much better if I said, ‘Yeah.’ It would be much easier for me to say, ‘Oh yes,’ Trump said. “No, I’m probably not too prepared to lose. I don’t like losing. I haven’t lost very much in my life.”

Trump also praised his performance in the 2016 Electoral College and, when asked about losing the popular vote to Clinton said, “There were a lot of votes cast that I didn’t believe.”

He didn’t elaborate, but has repeatedly made unsubstantiated claims that voter fraud cost him the popular vote.

The president’s reelection campaign recently cut ties with many of its own pollsters after leaked internal polling showed Biden beating Trump in several key battleground states, including Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Florida. Despite that, Trump has repeatedly maintained that he wants to take Biden on next year, with the 73-year-old president attempting to paint the 76-year-old former vice president as too old for the rigors of a presidential campaign — much less the White House.

“Joe Biden, he looks like he’s just exhausted,” Trump told Telmundo on Thursday. “I don’t know what happened to him, but he is exhausted and he doesn’t do any work. He’s not working.”

## Ex-congressman enters 2020 White House race

Former U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak, D-Pa., announced Sunday that he is running for president, joining 23 earlier entrants in the presidential race.

Sestak made the announcement in a video posted to his campaign website.

“I’m Joe Sestak, and I wore the cloth of the nation for over 31 years in peace and war, from the Vietnam and Cold War eras to Afghanistan and Iraq and the emergence of China,” Sestak said in the video. “Born and raised in Pennsylvania, I grew up in this

global canvas of service in the United States Navy.”

Sestak served two terms in the House, from 2007 to 2011. A retired Navy admiral, he also pursued two unsuccessful bids for the Senate, each time drawing the ire of national Democrats who chafed at Sestak’s go-it-alone style and quirky personality.

Sestak acknowledged that his entry into the White House race comes later than the other announced candidates. He said the reason for the delay was so that he could be with his daughter, Alexandria, after her brain cancer had returned.

From The Washington Post

## NATION

# US blacklists 5 Chinese tech organizations

By PAUL WISEMAN  
AND FRANK BAJAJ  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States is blacklisting five Chinese organizations involved in supercomputing with military-related applications, citing national security as justification for denying its Asian geopolitical rival access to critical U.S. technology.

The move Friday by the U.S. Commerce Department could complicate talks next week between President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, aimed at deescalating a trade dispute between the world's two biggest economies.

The five blacklisted organizations placed on the so-called Entity List includes supercomputer maker Sugon, which is heavily dependent on U.S. suppliers including chipmakers Intel, Nvidia and Advanced Micro Devices.

The other four are the Wuxi Jiangnan Institute of Comput-

ing Technology and three Sugon affiliates. The Commerce Department called their activities "contrary to the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States."

Sugon and the Wuxi Jiangnan Institute, which the U.S. said is owned by a Chinese army research institute, are involved in China's push to develop next-generation "exascale" high-performance computing to assist with military modernization. The technology involved supports such military-related tasks as running nuclear simulations, calculating missile trajectories and hypersonic algorithms, said Paul Triolo, technology analyst with the global risk-assessing Eurasia Group.

"This is all about the race to exascale computing, which China has designated as a major priority," he said, adding that companies such as Sugon have received major government backing.

Of particular concern to China

hawks in the Trump administration, Triolo added, is Sugon's move to develop a next-generation processor of its own. It licensed one generation of AMD technology as part of a 2016 joint venture in which a Sugon subsidiary has an ownership stake.

An AMD spokesperson said the company was reviewing the order "to determine next steps related to our joint ventures."

In recent years, U.S. and Chinese companies have been alternating as leading producers of the world's fastest supercomputers. Sugon had 63 of the top 500 in the most recent rankings.

The blacklist effectively bars U.S. firms from selling technology to the Chinese organizations without government approval. Last month, Commerce last month added telecommunications giant Huawei to it, heightening tensions with Beijing.

This is not the first time the U.S. has placed on the Entity List a Chinese organization involved

in supercomputer development with military uses. In 2015 it added China's National University of Defense Technology to the Entity List.

"The U.S. is gradually squeezing off access to U.S. technology for major elements of China's next generation supercomputing," said Triolo. The long-running campaign isn't directly related to Trump's current trade war with China.

Trump has imposed 25% tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese imports and is preparing to target another \$300 billion, extending the import taxes to virtually everything China ships to the United States. China has retaliated with tariffs on U.S. products.

Talks to resolve the dispute broke off last month. But Trump and Xi are scheduled to meet next week at the Group of 20 summit in Osaka, Japan, to get the negotiations back on track.

"Adding more Chinese companies to the U.S. bad guys list may

be seen as a way to ramp up the pressure on China," said Amanda DeBuck, a partner at Dechert LLP and the former Commerce Department assistant secretary for export enforcement. "However, the Chinese may see this as ill-timed bullying. They cannot be seen as making concessions to the United States, so this may have the effect of hurting any chances for trade agreement."

The administration appeared to be sending mixed signals ahead of the summit.

In what looked like a goodwill gesture to Beijing, Vice President Mike Pence postponed a speech planned for Monday at a Washington think tank at which he was expected to criticize China's communist regime.

Asia specialist Tami Overby, senior director at the McLarty Associates consultancy, said that "it seems odd" that the Trump administration would delay Pence's speech and then turn around and expand its tech blacklist.

## Man who drove into Va. crowd seeks mercy in sentencing

By ALAN SUDERMAN  
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — The self-avowed white supremacist who plowed his car into counterdemonstrators opposing a white nationalist rally in Virginia two years ago, killing one person and injuring dozens, has asked a judge for mercy and a sentence shorter than life in prison.

Lawyers for James Alex Fields Jr., 22, said in a sentencing memo submitted in court documents Friday that the defendant should not spend his entire life in prison because of his age, a traumatic childhood and a history of mental illness.

Fields pleaded guilty to federal hate crimes in March and is set to be sentenced on Friday.

"No amount of punishment imposed on James can repair the damage he caused to dozens of innocent people. But this Court should find that retribution has limits," his attorneys wrote.

Prosecutors countered that the avowed

anti-Semite and Adolf Hitler admirer has no remorse and that he drove the car into the counterdemonstrators on Aug. 12, 2017, killing anti-racism activist Heather Heyer and injuring others protesting against the white nationalists.

The attorneys for Fields said that giving him something less than a life sentence would be akin to an "expression of mercy" and a "conviction that no individual is wholly defined by their worst moments."

But prosecutors said Friday that Fields deserves a life sentence, adding that what help deter others from committing "similar acts of domestic terrorism."

The dueling memos were filed last week as the federal sentencing looms.

Fields' case stirred racial tensions

around the country. Fields pleaded in March to federal hate crime charges and admitted that he intentionally plowed his speeding car into a crowd of anti-racism protesters, killing a woman and injuring dozens.

Under a plea deal, federal prosecutors agreed not to pursue the death penalty against Fields.

The charges he pleaded guilty to call for life in prison under federal sentencing guidelines.

Fields was convicted in December in a Virginia court of first-degree murder and other state charges for killing Heyer and injuring others. Sentencing on the state charges is scheduled for next month.

The rally in 2017 drew hundreds of white nationalists to Charlottesville to protest the planned removal of a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. Hundreds of counter-protesters demonstrated against the white nationalists.

In Friday's memo, Fields' attorneys highlighted his difficult upbringing and

history of mental illness, but many of the details were redacted from public viewing. He was raised by a paraplegic single mother and suffered "trauma" by growing up knowing that his Jewish grandfather had murdered his grandmother before committing suicide, his lawyers said.

Prosecutors focused on years of documented racist and anti-Semitic behavior by Fields, which they said included keeping a picture of Hitler on his bedside table.

They also said in court documents that he was recorded on a jail phone call making disparaging remarks about Heyer's mother as recently as last month.

Prosecutors also said that while Fields has a history of mental illness issues, it doesn't excuse his behavior in a way that would require a lenient sentence.

"Any mental health concerns raised by the defendant do not overcome the defendant's demonstrated lack of remorse and his prior history of substantial racial animus," prosecutors wrote.



Fields

moments."

But prosecutors said Friday that Fields deserves a life sentence, adding that what help deter others from committing "similar acts of domestic terrorism."

The dueling memos were filed last week as the federal sentencing looms.

Fields' case stirred racial tensions

## Trump won't say if he'll ask FBI to probe the killing of Jamal Khashoggi

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump isn't saying whether he'll direct the FBI to investigate the death of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi.

Trump said the slaying of the Saudi Arabian journalist has "been heavily investigated" and he suggested that pledges by U.S. ally Saudi Arabia to spend billions of dollars buying U.S. military equipment is more important to him because of the economic impact and jobs it's finding out what happened to Khashoggi.

Last week, an independent U.N.

report on the killing found "credible evidence" to warrant further investigation into the possible role of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and called for the FBI to investigate. U.S. intelligence agencies had also concluded that the crown prince ordered that Khashoggi be killed inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, Turkey.

"Saudi Arabia is a big buyer of (American) product. That means something to me.

"It's a big producer of jobs," the president told NBC's "Meet the Press" in a wide-ranging interview that was taped Friday and broadcast Sunday.

Trump said the subject of Khashoggi "didn't come up" when he and the crown prince spoke last Thursday, largely about Iran.

Trump said the Middle East is a "vicious, hostile place" and that Iran and other countries in the region are also guilty of the type of behavior Saudi Arabia has been accused of engaging in.

Khashoggi was killed and believed to have been dismembered by Saudi agents inside the consulate on Oct. 2. His remains have never been found.

The president declined last year to penalize Saudi Arabia over the killing. Khashoggi had been living in the U.S. at the time



SUSAN WALSH/AP

President Donald Trump won't say whether he will have the FBI conduct an investigation into the death of Jamal Khashoggi.

of his death.

Trump said he's "not like a fool" that will refuse to do business with Saudi Arabia, arguing that the kingdom will turn to U.S.

rivals China and Russia if Washington refuses to sell arms to the Saudis.

"Take their money. Take their money," Trump said.



## NATION



WALTER ARCE, DREAMSTIME/TNS

**A meeting at the State Capitol in Salem, Ore., on Saturday was canceled amid threats from militia groups after Republican lawmakers went into hiding to avoid a vote on a climate change bill.**

## Ore. Capitol closed after threats by militia groups

By JESSICA SCHLADEBECK  
New York Daily News

A planned meeting for Oregon senators Saturday was canceled amid threats from militia groups, who authorities said intended to demonstrate outside the capitol building in support of 11 Republican lawmakers, likely hiding out in a different state to avoid a vote on climate change legislation.

Police in a statement to The Salem Statesman Journal said officers had been "monitoring information throughout Friday that indicated the safety of legislators, staff and citizen visitors could be compromised if certain threatened behaviors were realized."

Threats against the state lawmakers and government officials come amid a clash between Democrats and Republicans, specifically over a sweeping greenhouse gas emissions cap-trade bill.

Every GOP senator fled the state Thursday morning instead of sitting by while their Democratic counterparts voted the legislation into law.

In order to continue with any Senate business, lawmakers are required to have a quorum.

Democrats are in the supermajority with 18 members, which

means at least two Republican senators must be present to achieve the required two-thirds minimum and move ahead with the agenda.

In response to the Republican's dash to nearby Idaho, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown authorized state troopers to find the wayward politicians and bring them back to Salem.

The Democrat additionally called for a \$500 fine for each of the missing senators for every day they remained on the lam.

A GoFundMe aimed at covering the fines for lawmakers has already exceeded its \$20,000 goal — though that's not the only support the GOP senators have received.

Militia groups, including the Three Percenters, said they would join protesters outside the Capitol.

They claimed a threat against State Police made by GOP Sen. Brian Boquist as their rallying cry.

"Send bachelors and come heavily armed," the Dallas Republican said during an interview on KGW on Wednesday.

"I'm not going to be a political prisoner in the state of Oregon. It's just that simple."

# Southern Calif. hit by swarm of 1K quakes over 3 weeks

By RONG-GONG LIN II  
Los Angeles Times

**LOS ANGELES** — The seismic storm that unleashed more than 1,000 small earthquakes in San Bernardino and Riverside counties these last three weeks elicited what has become a typical reaction in quake country.

To some, the "swarmageddon" 40 miles east of downtown Los Angeles brought fear that a bigger threat was coming. To others, as long as they didn't feel a shake, it was easy to just put it out of their minds.

California has small quakes all the time — a magnitude 3 every other day on average. But not all of them act the same, and some bring more danger than others.

As officials install more seismic sensors as part of the state's early warning system, experts are getting an increasingly better look at California's smaller earthquakes.

There is general agreement that the recent swarm probably wasn't a precursor to a catastrophic quake. But other small quakes — especially ones near major fault lines like the San Andreas — are potential warnings.

"I would redefine normal as: You should still be prepared for a large earthquake," U.S. Geological Survey research geophysicist Andrea Lenos said.

"We do know a big earthquake is going to happen" — just not when and where.

The last time earthquake scientists were especially concerned in California about a large triggered earthquake was nearly three years ago.

On Sept. 26, 2016, a rapid succession of small earthquakes — the strongest a trio measuring above magnitude 4.0 — began rupturing under the Salton Sea close to the San Andreas fault. Scientists worried those quakes could set off a domino effect, reawakening the southern San Andreas from its long slumber. That fault is capable of producing a magnitude 8.2 quake.

Their worst fears didn't materialize.

But "any time you have an increase in the number of small earthquakes, you're likely to increase the likelihood of a slightly larger earthquake happening," Lenos said.

The Fontana earthquake swarm that began on May 25, with its largest event a magnitude 3.2, was much less of a concern — it's quite a ways from the San Andreas and San Jacinto faults, two of California's scariest. That's why, Lenos said, "it's probably not going to affect the likelihood of larger earthquakes happening."

According to seismologist Lucy Jones, there's

nothing particularly more ominous about swarms versus a single, small tremor.

Places that have fluids moving around underground, where magma can heat up groundwater, are more likely to have swarms. They include the Salton Sea geothermal field in Imperial County, the Coso volcanic field of Inyo County, Mammoth Mountain in Mono County and the Geysers geothermal field in Lake, Mendocino and Sonoma counties.

**'I would redefine normal as: You should still be prepared for a large earthquake.'**

Andrea Lenos  
U.S. Geological  
Survey research  
geophysicist

There's an ongoing earthquake swarm around the town of Cahulla, about 20 miles east of Tecumec in Riverside County, that started in 2016 and is moving westward and getting shallower, probably triggered by the movement of groundwater. But it's not particularly close to any major faults.

Other swarms are more concerning.

In the Bay Area, the San Ramon Valley has had many swarms over the last several decades that haven't resulted in large earthquakes, Lenos said. One swarm in 2015 generated 4,000 quakes over five months, according to the Berkeley Seismology Lab.

Still, that activity is occurring close to the Calaveras fault — capable of producing an earthquake as big as the magnitude 7 along the East Bay's Hayward fault in 1868.

"Just because it's something we haven't had in the past doesn't mean it's not going to happen in the future," Lenos said.

For decades, Jones said, scientists have detected a line of small earthquakes running southwest to northeast between Jurupa Valley and Fontana on a geological feature called the Fontana seismicity trend, which isn't officially a fault.

While there's only a slim chance any particular earthquake will trigger something far worse, experts say, it's important to not completely relax.

While some might focus on the chance that the Fontana swarm won't result in a much larger earthquake, it wouldn't be surprising if a magnitude 6 or 6.5 struck the area, said Ross Stein, chief executive of Temblor.net and a former USGS research geophysicist.

"You can dismiss the swarm altogether, but ... you still have an issue that you should address," Stein said.

## Floating device to trap Pacific Ocean's plastic waste redeployed

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO** — A floating device designed to catch plastic waste has been redeployed in a second attempt to clean up a huge island of trash swirling in the Pacific Ocean between California and Hawaii.

Boyan Slat, creator of The Ocean Cleanup project, announced on Twitter that a 2,000-foot-long floating boom that broke apart late last year was sent back to the Great Pacific Garbage Patch last week after four months of repair.

A ship towed the U-shaped barrier from San Francisco to the patch in September to trap the plastic. But during the four months at sea, the boom broke apart



Slat

under constant waves and wind and it wasn't retaining the plastic it caught.

"Hopefully, nature doesn't have too many surprises in store for us this time," Slat tweeted. "Either way, we're set to learn a lot from this campaign."

Fitted with solar-powered lights, cameras, sensors and satellite antennas, the device is intended to communicate its position at all times, allowing a support ves-

sel to fish out the collected plastic every few months and transport it to dry land.

The plastic barrier with a tapered 10-foot-deep screen is intended to act like a coastline, trapping some of the 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic that scientists estimate are swirling in the patch while allowing marine life to safely swim beneath it.

During the device's first run, the organization said marine biologists on board the support vessel did not observe any environmental impact.

Slat said he hopes one day to deploy 60 of the devices to skim plastic debris off the surface of the ocean.



LORIN ELEN GIL/AP

**A ship tows The Ocean Cleanup's buoyant trash-collecting device toward the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco in 2018 en route to the Pacific Ocean. The floating device designed to catch plastic waste has been redeployed after repairs.**

## NATION



# HECK OF A LOAD



Top: Elephants are kept in their stalls while staff cleans the herd room at Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium in Omaha, Neb. Above: Intern Audrey Lash cleans up dung in the elephant herd room at the zoo.

PHOTOS BY RYAN SODERLIN, THE OMAHA (NEB.) WORLD-HERALD/AP

## Zoo in Nebraska uses compost farm to handle vast amounts of waste

By CHRIS PETERS  
Omaha (Neb.) World-Herald

OMAHA, Neb.

**E**lephants poop 12 times a day. Each massive pachyderm eats 100 pounds of hay every day. They spend 18 hours a day eating or pooping.

Somebody has to clean up that mess, 20-pound pitchfork scoops at a time.

Anyone who owns a dog knows that nature doesn't reclaim your puppy's poop as fast as your furry friend can produce it. Now imagine your dog is an elephant. Now, six elephants. Now, six elephants plus a herd of giraffes, a handful of rhinos and a smorgasbord of other critters that, no matter how long you pray, just won't stop defecating.

That's a heck of a load.

At the Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium, managing animal waste is a nonstop battle. It's one that requires heavy lifting, long hours and a smart plan, one that took decades to evolve.

The zoo has stored its animal waste in a gigantic pile down a southern hillside for decades. It's a pain to get to, but at least it's out of the way.

Longtime zoo Director Lee Simmons planned to build a concrete poo chute that would allow zookeepers to wheel containers full of waste to the edge of a ramp atop the hill, then spill the goods down onto the hillside. He even had six concrete footings poured — which are still in place today — but the project was never completed.

Until recently, the zoo simply piled all its animal dung on the hillside bordering the BNSF Railway and let it return to the earth naturally.

"The guys from the rail yard would call (a couple of times) and say, 'Hey, your (dung) pile is on fire,'" said Dan Cassidy, a longtime zoo employee and current vice president of animal management.

The zoo experimented with on-site composting techniques, but Cassidy said none of the ideas worked out very well. Earlier this year, the zoo built a concrete pad on the same hillside and hired a compost farm to haul away its animal waste every month, the Omaha World-Herald reported. Instead of melding into the hillside, zoo poo now goes back into landscapes, garden beds and, in some cases, hayfields.

### Follow the hay

To illustrate the digestive life cycle of an elephant's breakfast, let's follow the hay.

Regional farms stock a drive-thru hay barn north of the Asian Highlands exhibit. A semitrailer backs up to the rear of the elephant barn so zookeepers can keep the hay supply running.

The zoo's six elephants forage for 18 hours a day. They strip bark from branches and chomp on produce, but hay makes up the bulk of their diet. Each animal eats about 100 pounds of it every day, and elephants digest less than half of what they eat. That means that their waste is packed with hay and other food remnants.

Elephants leave droppings 10 to 12 times a day, each at least twice the size of a large burrito. Zookeepers said elephants, rhinos and giraffes produce more waste than all the other species at the zoo combined.

Every morning at 8, zookeepers turn on music and start scooping. It takes about two hours, using shovels and pitchforks, to clear the main indoor living space of feces and hay. Then it's another hour to clear additional pens. They return in the afternoon for another hour or two to clean again.

All the poo at the zoo winds up in an area called the "Baja." On the hillside south of the elephant and lion habitats, a roughly 8,000-square-foot concrete pad stores piles of sticks, mulch and excrement.

A side-dumping truck from Ashland compost farm Soil Dynamics hurls the zoo's compost away about once a month. A John Deere loader carves into the steaming mountain of animal waste and packs it in the dump truck.

Each load weighs about 25 tons, and it takes many loads over about a week to clear the zoo's stockpile. The dump truck delivers the load to a compost farm bordering the zoo's safari park in Ashland. There, it is mixed with grass clippings, wood chips and food waste from local schools and processed into usable compost.

The final product is delivered to local landscapers, nurseries and gardeners.

## NATION

# Devastation in North Carolina

Town manager Glenn Spivey leans against a wall support in a gutted store showing the effects of Hurricane Florence in downtown Trenton, N.C., on April 17.

PHOTOS BY GERRY BROOME/AP

## Town of Trenton struggles months after Florence as new hurricane season begins

By JONATHAN DREW  
Associated Press

TRENTON, N.C. — Nine months after Hurricane Florence inundated much of eastern North Carolina, the tiny town of Trenton is still struggling to rebuild as a new hurricane season begins.

The Jones County courthouse and jail have yet to reopen. Judges hear cases in county office buildings, and inmates are housed in another county. Even the mayor has yet to move back into her house because construction workers are in short supply.

"It's a slow process when you've got so many people displaced and only so many people to work," Mayor Darlene Spivey said. "It's mentally and physically exhausting. ... It's just more than I ever could have fathomed."

The stately brick and stone courthouse rises over Trenton's main street of brick storefronts, a bank branch, restaurant and gas station, along with several churches and a cemetery. The Trent River flows several blocks away.

The September 2018 hurricane turned downtown into a shallow lake of muddy water, flooding 106 homes — all but about 20 of the town's households, town officials say.

All told, Florence caused \$22 billion in damage in North Carolina, according to the National Hurricane Center. A state tally counts 45 storm-related deaths. In Jones County, numerous water rescues were performed as the Trent River overflowed its banks at record levels.

With the start of hurricane season June 1, the threat of another round of storms worries Sharon Metts, 81, who had never seen the home where she's lived since 1965 flood before Florence swamped it. She recently moved back into a charity-replaced ruined flooring, drywall and cabinets.

"I'm afraid of them now," she said of hurricanes, standing on a porch that was submerged by several feet of water. "It's been in the backyard; it's been under the house. But never like this."

Town Clerk Glenn Spivey, who's married to the mayor, fears that as many as half the



Freddie Lee Mundine, 83, stayed with relatives for six months after Florence filled his home with water.

town's flooded homes could qualify for a government buyout that would preclude rebuilding on the land.

A visitor can walk most of the residential streets of one-story houses with large lawns in an afternoon. During a recent tour, Glenn Spivey pointed out several homes already vacated for good and several others with FEMA trailers parked outside.

If more people leave permanently, it would be "rough, rough," he said.

"You're losing money as far as sewer users. The county's losing water users. Plus, we're all going to lose tax base," he said.

Fifty-five homes with Trenton addresses are being evaluated for federal hazard mitigation funds, though some may be outside town limits, according to state emergency management officials.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency hazard mitigation program includes buyouts, elevating houses or other flood-proofing repairs. Across Jones County, 111 homeowners have sought expedited



Spivey on April 17, walks through a store in Trenton that is undergoing repairs following damage from Hurricane Florence.

buyouts because of Florence, more than in any other North Carolina county, according to a joint state-federal notice.

It's not clear when buyouts will be approved, but FEMA already has paid county residents \$33 million in aid, loans and insurance payouts. As of late May, 37 county households were still staying in FEMA trailers or other temporary units.

Standing on bare subflooring with building supplies stacked against the walls of his house, Glenn Spivey said that because he and his wife had flood insurance, they got checks quickly from their insurer. But finding contractors proved much more difficult.

He said contractors would tell him, "You're No. 200 on my list" or "You're No. 150."

Construction workers have gravitated to bigger towns and cities, he said, owing to a combination of deeper pockets, larger populations and more news coverage.

To the south in Wilmington, where media outlets positioned themselves for live shots

during the hurricane's arrival, tree-removal and construction crews began arriving from other states hours after landfall.

Jones County is also one of six North Carolina counties without a newspaper, according to a University of North Carolina study. The county also has no local television stations based there.

"The more word you can get out, the better off you are, especially when it comes to financial resources," said Scott Murphy, who leads MX Network, a local Christian charity repairing homes and businesses. "Getting the money to rebuild is really important."

Faith-based charities have spread the word through their own networks, offering hope for some homeowners.

Freddie Lee Mundine, 83, spent six months staying with relatives after Florence filled his home with 3 feet of water. But church-related charity workers, coupled with FEMA assistance, allowed him to return recently, sleeping on an air mattress while he replaces ruined furniture.



## NATION



PHOTOS BY PAUL W. GILLESPIE, THE (ANNAPOLIS, MD.) CAPITAL GAZETTE/TNS

Left: Becky Ranck cheers after smashing an item at the Rage Room of Maryland in Glen Burnie. Right: Rage Room employee Lynda Center shows one of the items people can smash, a printer.

# A SMASHING GOOD TIME

Md. Rage Room destruction is all in good fun

By E.B. FURGERSON III  
The (Annapolis, Md.) Capital

**H**ave you had it up to here? So fed up you could burst?

There's a safe place to take out your frustrations — Rage Room of Maryland, in Glen Burnie, where you can smash things to your heart's content.

For a fee, customers can take out their frustrations on all manner of glassware and electronics with all the equipment they need to deliver the crushing blows.

Owner Jason Tillman came up with the idea after finding out about similar businesses online. He had an unused space in his low-slung office building — there's a driving school on the first floor — and decided to take the plunge.

"I found them in Japan, Texas, Serbia. The lower level of my building wasn't making any money; I figured it could be a great way to make some money and have fun at the same time," said Tillman, who opened the Rage Room two years ago.

Though Tillman's is the only one of its kind in the immediate area, rage rooms (also called smash rooms and anger rooms) are a growing trend, with dozens of locations across the country. The concept reportedly originated in about 2008 in Japan at a business where people could throw teacups and plates against a wall.

It caught on, with venting facilities popping up from Serbia to Argentina, Dallas to Philadelphia.

At Rage Room of Maryland, the stock of items for customers to break comes from a few sources. Some items are donated and left on the steps of the building, Tillman said. "We also work with junk removal companies, and some stuff comes from the Goodwill," he said.

Open only on Saturdays, Rage Room's 14 appointments for each of the two smashing rooms typically book up a week and a half in advance. Tillman said half of the sessions booked are date nights, with groups of three or four representing about 25%. Another 25% are larger groups.

"Most of the clientele, I'd say 65%, are women," he said. "And they tend to be the ones doing the research, like for a date night. Often, people surprise their partner with a session. They will bring them in the door and they don't know what they are getting into. It's fun to see their reac-



Customer Stephanie Phillips smashes a plate.

tion, their eyes, when they find out."

Some come to celebrate or vent after relationships go sour.

"One lady was engaged, but then they broke up. So she brought in engagement pictures and demolished them," Tillman said. "Another woman brought things in from her house after a divorce, some of her ex-husband's stuff, and broke it up. That's some revenge."

For many clients, it's just a way to let off steam. Ryan Jones, of Catonsville, Md., said he was searching online for ways to relieve stress when he stumbled upon Rage Room. So he and his wife made an appointment.

"It was wonderful. We wore jumpsuits, helmets and face visors. We busted up beer bottles with crowbars and a field hockey stick. We crushed an old speaker

with a sledgehammer and destroyed some plates."

Their wrecking crew session went quick — within 10 minutes, all was smashed.

"It was very cathartic and thrilling. We plan on going back sometime," he said.

Lakisha Turner, of Pikesville, Md., said she was looking for a team-building activity for work when she stumbled across Rage Room of Maryland.

"Well, my work said forget it, but I took my son and we had a ball. It was awesome," she said. They broke beer bottles, wine glasses and an old printer.

"And they were very nice and informative, especially about safety," Turner said. "And they checked on you to make sure you followed the safety rules. I liked that."

But some question whether rage rooms and their ilk are innocent fun.

Dr. Scott Smith, an Annapolis, Md.-area psychologist who also writes a column for The Capital, said he would not recommend anger rooms. "If it is a novelty thing, a fun thing done as a lark, perhaps. But it is not helpful therapy," he said. "It can reinforce rage behaviors. ... It's physical violence against inanimate objects. It's psychologically counterproductive."

**'It was very cathartic and thrilling. We plan on going back sometime.'**

Ryan Jones  
Rage Room of Maryland customer

## WORLD



PHOTOS BY EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

People take part in the annual Pride parade in Kiev, Ukraine, on Sunday. Thousands of LGBT supporters paraded in the city center.

## Thousands in Ukraine march for LGBT rights

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Thousands of supporters of LGBT rights marched through the center of Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, under a heavy police presence to separate them from opponents.

Police said Sunday that nine people were arrested on suspicion of preparing provocations against participants in the Kiev Pride event.

Ukrainian news reports estimated the number of marchers at about 2,500.

Several people protesting the march scuffled with police as the march assembled. Others stood along the route, shouting and holding a banner reading "Sodomy is the road to hell."

Opponents of gay rights say homosexuality is contrary to Ukraine's traditional culture. In turn, a large banner at the head of the march declared that "our tradition is freedom."



Marchers in the parade were under the protection of riot police.

## Coup attempt thwarted in Ethiopia

By ELIAS MESERET

Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — Ethiopia's government foiled a coup attempt in a region north of the capital, Addis Ababa, and the country's military chief was shot dead, the prime minister said Sunday.

The failed coup in the Amhara region was led by a high-ranking military officer and others within the military, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, wearing military fatigues, announced on the state broadcaster.

In a related development, the head of Ethiopia's military was shot dead in the capital not long after the attack in Amhara, during which soldiers attacked a building in which a meeting of regional officials was taking place, Nigussu Tilahun, spokesman for the prime minister, told a news conference

Sunday. The regional president and at least two other officials were among the victims of that attack, he said.

The violent attack in Bahir Dar, capital of Amhara, was linked to the subsequent assassination of army chief Gen. Seare Mekonnen, who was shot dead by a bodyguard at his residence in Addis Ababa. A retired army general visiting the army chief at the time was killed in the same attack, said the spokesman.

The attack in Bahir Dar was allegedly led by a renegade brigadier who had recently been pardoned by Ethiopia's prime minister after being jailed for some offenses. Most of the perpetrators of the attack in Bahir Dar have been apprehended and others are being hunted down, said the spokesman.

The attempted coup in Amhara is the latest challenge to Abiy, who was elected last year as a reform-

minded young leader.

Abiy has captured the imagination of many with his political and economic reforms, including the surprise acceptance of a peace agreement with bitter rival Eritrea, the opening of major state-owned sectors to private investment and the release of thousands of prisoners including opposition figures once sentenced to death.

Along the way he has faced some challenges. In June 2018, only months in office, an attempt to hurt a grenade at Abiy caused a deadly explosion at a massive rally in support of the sweeping changes in Ethiopia. Nine police officials were arrested over that incident, state media reported.

In October rebellious Ethiopian soldiers protested over pay, causing a security incident in the capital. Ethiopia's army is one of the largest in Africa.

# N. Korea says Trump sent Kim 'excellent' letter

By TONG-HYUNG KIM  
Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — President Donald Trump sent North Korean leader Kim Jong Un an "excellent" letter, the North's state-run news agency reported Sunday, quoting Kim as saying he would "seriously contemplate it."

The White House declined to confirm that Trump had sent a letter to Kim.

It comes as nuclear talks between the U.S. and North Korea broke down after the failed summit between Kim and Trump in February in Vietnam.

The U.S. is demanding that North Korea abandon its nuclear weapons entirely before international sanctions are lifted. North Korea is seeking a step-by-step approach in which moves toward denuclearization are matched by concessions from the U.S., notably a relaxation of the sanctions.

Kim "said with satisfaction that the letter is of excellent content," Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency reported.

"Appreciating the political judging faculty and extraordinary courage of President Trump, Kim Jong Un said that he would seriously contemplate the interesting content," the agency said, without elaborating.

South Korea's presidential office said it sees the exchange of letters between Kim and Trump as a positive development for keeping the momentum for dialogue alive.

Trump's letter came days after Kim's summit with visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping, which experts say underscored China's emergence as a major player in the diplomatic push to resolve the nuclear standoff with the North.

North Korea state media said Kim and Xi discussed the political situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula and reached unspecified consensus on important issues.

Xi is expected to meet with Trump this week in Japan during the G-20 summit. Analysts say he could pass him a message from Kim about the nuclear negotiations.

Kim said during his New Year's speech said he would seek a "new way" if the United States persists with sanctions and pressure against North Korea. After the collapse of his meeting with Trump in Hanoi, Kim said Washington has until the end of the year to offer mutually acceptable terms for a deal to salvage the negotiations.

Following a provocative run of weapons tests, Kim initiated negotiations with Seoul and Washington in 2018, which led to three



KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY; KOREA NEWS SERVICE/AP

In this updated photo provided Sunday by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un reads a letter from President Donald Trump.

summits with South Korea's president and his first with Trump in Singapore on June 12 last year, when they issued a vague statement on a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula without describing how and when it would occur. The lack of substance and fruitless working-level talks set up the breakdown of Kim's second meeting with Trump, which the Americans blamed on excessive North Korean demands for sanctions relief in exchange for only a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

Nuclear negotiations have been at a standstill since then, but on the eve of the anniversary of the Singapore summit, Trump told U.S. reporters he received a "beautiful" letter from Kim, without revealing what was written. In an interview with TIME magazine last week, Trump said he also received a "birthday card" from Kim that was delivered by hand a day before.

Trump and Kim also exchanged letters in 2018 after their first summit.

In September 2018, Trump told a cheering crowd at a campaign rally in West Virginia that Kim "wrote me beautiful letters and they're great letters. We fell in love."

Analysts say the gesture of sending letters is part of North Korean efforts to present Kim as a legitimate international statesman who is reasonable and capable of negotiating solutions and making deals. Because of the weight of formality they provide, Kim might see personal letters as an important way to communicate with leaders of countries the North never had close ties with, they say.



## WORLD

# ASEAN leaders call for self-restraint

By JIM GOMEZ  
AND KAEWEWIT KAEWJINDA  
Associated Press

BANGKOK — Southeast Asian leaders on Sunday pressed their call for self-restraint in the disputed South China Sea and renewed their alarm over the U.S.-China trade war, with one leader warning it may spiral out of control.

The long-raging territorial conflicts and the protracted dispute between the two global economic powerhouses are high on the agenda in the final of two days of meetings of leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. It's an annual summit steeped in diplomacy, protocol and cultural color in the Thai capital.

Facing regional predicaments such as the Rohingya refugee crisis in Myanmar, the leaders took the stage and clasped their hands together in a trademark ASEAN handshake to project unity.

Founded in 1967 in Bangkok in the Cold War era, the diverse 10-nation bloc lumps together an absolute monarchy and constitutional monarchies, along with socialist republics and fledgling democracies.

This year's host, Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, opened the summit with a call for regional unity and a push for the bloc to conclude a massive free trade pact with China and five other Asia-Pacific nations to cushion any impact from America's trade conflicts with China.

"The winds of protectionism that are battering the multilateral



GENUINI ANARASINGHE/AP

**Dancers perform at the ASEAN leaders summit together in Bangkok, Thailand, where leaders discussed matters related to the disputed South China Sea and the U.S.-China trade dispute.**

system remind us that we must hang on ever stronger to one another," Prayuth said.

The U.S., which has pursued bilateral deals over multination trade accords under President Donald Trump, is not included in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, or RCEP, which Prayuth said would encompass the world's largest free-trade region.

Officials from Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam will be at the G-20 summit later this month in Japan, where Trump

and Chinese President Xi Jinping are expected to meet and express the region's concerns.

"ASEAN hopes there will be discussions that lead to an easing and resolution of these problems because they affect many countries," Prayuth said.

In a statement outlining their regional policies, the leaders on Sunday renewed their call for countries involved in the territorial spats to "exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities and avoid actions that may further complicate the situation, and

pursue the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law."

Four ASEAN states — the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei — along with Taiwan and China are locked in disputes over the strategic waterway. ASEAN has been in talks with China to negotiate a nonaggression pact called the "code of conduct" to prevent major armed clashes in the offshore region, which has long been regarded as a potential Asian flashpoint.

## Crashed Dubai plane tailed others too closely

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — A plane involved in a fatal crash that killed four people working on improvements at Dubai International Airport had followed other larger aircraft landing there too closely as air traffic controllers offered inconsistent warnings about the hazard, a preliminary investigative report released Sunday found.

The May 16 crash of the Diamond DA62 saw the aircraft roll upside-down in the air and smash into a park near the airport at high speed, killing the three Britons and one South African on board, according to the report by the United Arab Emirates' General Civil Aviation Authority.

The twin propeller-engine light aircraft first lost control in the wake of a Thai Airways Airbus A350 landing at Dubai's airport, the world's busiest for international travel. The pilot corrected but lost control seven seconds later, the report found.

## Building topples in Cambodia, killing 17

SIHANOUKVILLE, Cambodia — Cambodian rescuers combing through the rubble of a collapsed seven-story building recovered the bodies of 17 construction workers and pulled out 24 injured as authorities questioned four Chinese who were involved with the project.

Construction workers said the unfinished building in the coastal city of Sihanoukville doubled as a dormitory, with the crew spending nights on the second floor. Nhor Chandeun and his wife were asleep around 4 a.m. Saturday when they were awakened by a loud noise and the building crumbled on top of them.

"All the workers were asleep," the 31-year-old said from a hospital in the city. "A moment before the building collapsed it was vibrating and then it was falling down. But it was too quick to escape."

## Opposition declares win in Istanbul vote repeat

ISTANBUL — The opposition candidate for mayor of Istanbul has declared victory in a high-stakes repeat election after his rival backed by Turkey's president conceded defeat.

Ekreem Imamoglu's victory means Turkey's largest city won't be governed by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's party or its predecessor for the first time in 25 years.

Unofficial returns after most votes from Sunday's repeat election were counted showed Imamoglu had a clear majority. His government-backed opponent, former Prime Minister Binali Yildirim, conceded moments after early returns showed him trailing with 44% of the vote.

Imamoglu narrowly beat the ruling party's candidate on March 31. He served as mayor for nearly three weeks before Turkey's electoral board threw out the results and ordered a rerun as requested by the government.

From The Associated Press

## Thailand's Wild Boars mark year since going missing in flooded cave

By PITCHA DANGPRASITH  
Associated Press

MAE SAI, Thailand — When the 12 young boys and their soccer coach walked into a cave complex in northern Thailand a year ago Sunday, they didn't know their lives were going to forever change.

Rising floodwater quickly trapped the youngsters inside the Tham Luang cave complex, setting off a more than two-week ordeal that the world watched with rapt attention and that left the members of the Wild Boars soccer club with a survival tale that propelled them into celebrities.

Nine of the boys and their coach were on hand Sunday in the northern town of Mae Sai to mark the anniversary along with some 4,000 others by taking part in a marathon and bike event to raise money to improve conditions at the cave.

"I want to thank everybody who has put so much effort and sacrifices to save all of us," said Ekkam Chantamong, the former coach of the Wild Boars who led

the boys on the ill-fated visit to the cave.

Ekapol stood in front of a bronze statue of Lt. Cmdr. Saman Gunan that has been erected to honor the former Thai navy SEAL who died while working on the search and rescue.

The boys spent nine nights lost in the cave, living on very little food and water, before they were found deep in the twisting cave complex huddled on a patch of dirt above the rising water line. It was a moment captured on video and soon broadcast to the world.

It would be another eight days — until July 10 — before they were all safe.

Also on hand Sunday were a number of the local and foreign divers who took part in the search and rescue operation, which due to its danger and difficulty has been hailed by many as a miracle.

"Not many children could have survived the way they did, so we have to respect them for that," said Vernon Unsworth, a British diver whose advice and experience played a key part in



SARACHA LALIT/AP

**Members of the Wild Boars soccer team who were rescued from a flooded cave pose in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, Thailand, on Sunday during an event to mark one year since their ordeal began.**

the search for the boys and their eventual rescue.

A year later the boys are notably older and taller. Wearing orange T-shirts from the event, they smiled and posed for photos. They have grown familiar with the attention they receive, though they are not altogether comfortable with it.

Abbot Prayutjetjanukarn, a monk in the local neighborhood who interacts with the team every week, told The Associated Press that some of the boys are wary of the media and try to avoid the press whenever they can.

Three of the players as well as

Ekapol were stateless and were granted Thai citizenship last August.

The team traveled last year to Argentina and the U.S. The boys and their coach are represented by the 13 Tham Luang Co. Ltd., which Thailand's government helped establish to manage business opportunities stemming from the ordeal.

Netflix has acquired the rights to their story.

The 12 boys and their coach were scheduled to attend a Buddhist merit-making ceremony at Tham Luang on Monday.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Guardsman charged in child porn case

**VT** BURLINGTON — The U.S. Department of Justice said a member of the Vermont Air National Guard has been charged with transporting and possessing child pornography.

The Office of the U.S. Attorney for the District of Vermont said Scott Brochu, 47, was charged on Thursday near his residence.

WCAX-TV reported Brochu has been with the Guard for more than 25 years.

The Vermont National Guard released a statement that said any action by a member "that violates the law, breaks the trust that citizens place on our organization ... will not be tolerated."

## Suit challenges training mandate for braiding

**LA** NEW ORLEANS — A lawsuit says the state imposes onerous and unconstitutional permit requirements on people who braid hair for a living.

The suit was filed Thursday in Baton Rouge by three practitioners of natural hair braiding techniques practiced widely in black communities.

The suit said Louisiana's requirement for 500 hours of training is difficult to comply with. That's because few cosmetology schools offer the course and the state doesn't appear to even offer the required exam.

## Troopers and truckers team up for safe driving

**IL** JOLIET — Illinois state troopers are teaming up with truck drivers in the Chicago area to stop distracted driving.

The (Joliet) Herald-News reported the "Trooper in a Truck" program has troopers riding along in the cabs of commercial motor vehicles to better spot distracted drivers.

Maj. Robert Meeder said troopers are at a better vantage point from a truck's cab to see if drivers in other vehicles are texting or doing other unsafe things.

If the trooper sees something, they notify police units up ahead to stop the violators.

## Hazards of balloons to wildlife highlighted

**MI** DETROIT — Environmental advocates are raising awareness about the dangers of balloons for wildlife.

The Detroit Free Press reported volunteers for the Alliance for the Great Lakes picked up more than 18,000 balloons, balloon pieces or balloon strings along Great Lakes shorelines from 2016 to 2018.

Lara O'Brien, who studies at the University of Michigan's School for Environment and Sustainability, said an Australian study found balloons are the highest-risk plastic debris for seabirds. A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist in Virginia said necropsies reveal tangled balloon ribbons in the guts of birds and marine animals.



JEFFREY D. ALLRED, THE (SALT LAKE CITY) DESERT NEWS/AP

## Feelin' sheepish

**Bronc Heiner looks a bit concerned after falling off a sheep while mutton bustin' during the West Haven Days youth rodeo in West Haven, Utah, on Thursday.**

## Wife arrested for giving husband's guns away

**FL** LAKELAND — A woman was arrested for allegedly taking her husband's guns and turning them over to police.

Lakeland Police said Courtney Irby, 32, told police Joseph Irby tried to run her over with a car. She later went to his apartment and searched for the guns.

According to the arrest affidavit, she told an officer she had the guns and he asked if she had committed an armed burglary. According to the affidavit, she said "yes" but explained that her husband wasn't going to turn them in.

She was charged with armed burglary of a dwelling and grand theft of a firearm.

The Ledger reported the couple was in the midst of a divorce. Court records show she applied for a temporary injunction against her husband.

## Live rat falls from ceiling at restaurant

**CA** LOS ANGELES — A woman said she got more than she bargained for at a restaurant when a live rat fell from the ceiling.

Alisha Norman, of Houston, said she was watching the Women's World Cup soccer game at Buffalo Wild Wings in Westchester on Thursday when the rat fell onto a table next to hers.

Norman told KCBS-TV that the manager scooped up the rat using two plates and dumped it into a garbage bag.

## THE CENSUS

# \$200K

mayor. Police commissioner Michael Harrison said he will tighten up on rules.

## Bones at construction site are of triceratops

**CO** DENVER — Paleontologists said fossilized bones unearthed at a suburban Denver construction site are those of a large adult triceratops.

Maura O'Neal, a spokeswoman for the Denver Museum of Nature & Science, said Friday the partial skeleton included a limb bone and several ribs of the three-horned dinosaur.

The Denver Post reported the bones were found in May at a construction site near a retirement community in Highlands Ranch in a rock layer that dates back 65 million to 68 million years.

Construction crews are using heavy equipment to dig a deep trench in search for other dinosaur fossils next to the area.

## Prosecutor: Thieves stole used cooking oil

**NC** RALEIGH — Federal agents said they've mopped up a theft ring involving 21 co-conspirators responsible for stealing a precious commodity: \$3.9 million worth of used cooking oil known as "yellow grease."

A federal indictment unsealed Thursday said the thieves tar-

geted eateries in North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia for five years, pumping used oil from restaurant storage tanks into trucks for shipment around the country.

This oil is greasy gold for biodiesel companies. U.S. Agriculture Department data show a 100-pound load of "yellow grease" is worth \$25.

The suspects face conspiracy and money laundering charges that carry prison sentences of up to 25 years.

## Suburb looks to host quidditch tourney

**NE** PAPILLION — An Omaha suburb is a finalist for what some might call a magical sporting event: the Midwest Regional Championship of quidditch. Papillion is vying with La Crosse, Wis., for the honor.

Mary Kimball, events director for the U.S. Quidditch organization, said selections will be announced this week for the 2019 and 2020 events.

This form of quidditch is a ground-bound adaptation of J.K. Rowling's creation in the "Harry Potter" book series, where players from the magic school take to the sky on broomsticks. The full-contact sport combines elements of rugby, dodgeball and tag.

## Illegal tenants removed from filthy building

**CA** LOS ANGELES — Authorities have removed dozens of people who were living illegally in a filthy, former South Los Angeles church.

About 40 people were removed Friday because authorities said the building had "inhumane" living conditions.

Video showed rooms filled with trash and vermin. Residents said there hadn't been any lights or running water for months.

KNBC-TV said the building had been converted to transitional housing even though it's zoned for commercial, not residential use.

The station said residents were paying \$300 to \$1,000 a month for a bedroom and a shared kitchen and bathroom. Residents were sent to shelters or given motel vouchers.

## Baby California condor is spotted

**AZ** VERMILION CLIFFS — A baby California condor has been spotted in far northern Arizona.

The Peregrine Fund said one of its biologists confirmed the nesting last week at Vermilion Cliffs National Monument.

It's the first hatching of a bird in the wild during the current breeding season. The Peregrine Fund said the condor likely is 2 months old.

California condors are making a comeback in the wild three decades after they were on the brink of extinction.

From wire reports

# FACES

## 'Cars 2' (2011)

**8** The sidekick tow-truck Mater (Larry the Cable Guy) from the charming "Cars" becomes part of the entree here for an off-kilter, James Bond-esque international adventure that car-reens about, trying to avert potholes and plot holes.

## 'Cars 3' (2017)

**7** As much of the Pixar brain trust moved into middle age, a recurring theme became about what happens when life's wear and tear takes its toll on a former hero or champion. "Cars 3" gets plenty of narrative mileage from how Lightning McQueen (Owen Wilson) finds a place in a young car's sport.

## 'Monsters University' (2013)

**6** Pixar ventures into prequel territory as we get to see Mike (Billy Crystal) and Sully (John Goodman) in college, before they became the scaremongering pals we enjoyed in "Monsters, Inc."

## 'Finding Dory' (2016)

**5** Ellen DeGeneres is able to deliver that same endearing magic voicing Dory the blue tang as she did in the brilliant "Finding Nemo." The franchise's exploration of "lost family" continues.



# How do the Pixar sequels stack up?

By MICHAEL CAVNA • The Washington Post

Although sequels have dominated the Pixar slate for the past decade — seven of the studio's 11 most recent movies have been franchise follow-ups — its filmmakers do not take each return to existing properties lightly.

Across more than two decades, Pixar has had an uncommon ability to reload creatively with its sequels, but naturally, some feel more ambitious and fully realized than others.

As "Toy Story 4" opens, we rank only its eight sequels, to assess which ones indeed feel "worthy."

## 'Toy Story 4' (2019)

**4** The return of Bo Peep (Annie Potts) is an inspired idea as she shows Woody how to adapt to change.

## 'Incredibles 2' (2018)

**3** Brad Bird's "The Incredibles" tops many fan lists as the best Pixar film, so it's a tough act to follow. The excellence of the sequel centers largely on the stunning action sequences as the focus is on Elastigirl (Holly Hunter), who becomes arguably the most fully realized Pixar heroine yet.

## 'Toy Story 2' (1999)

**2** This story centers on what happens when relationships, much like doll parts, need repair. "Toy Story 2" arrives in brilliance, from Buzz Lightyear's self-discovery to the evocative nostalgia of "Woody's Roundup." The mournful "When She Loved Me" montage creates a template for all future tear-inducing Pixar scenes.

## 'Toy Story 3' (2010)

**1** Revisiting beloved characters so many years later was risky. Pixar somehow created the most frighteningly lifelike climax in studio history (the incinerator), and then completed grown Andy's arc with a last masterstroke.

## 'Easy A' spinoff plans new cast

From wire services

When "Easy A" debuted in 2010, it spoke frankly about teenagers' sex lives, captured the zeitgeisty pastime of vlogging and solidified Emma Stone as a movie star.

Nearly a decade after the release of that romantic comedy, a spinoff movie is in the works. Bert Royal, who wrote the original movie's script, is writing and will direct the follow-up for Screen Gems.

Stone, in 2010's "Easy A"

Gems.

"Easy A" starred Stone as Olive Penderghast, a clean-cut teen who experiments with the high school rumor mill to build her social status and bank account. The sex-positive, coming-of-age film aimed to update and subvert the classic novel "The Scarlet Letter" (in which a woman is scorned for her sexual activity), as Olive agrees to lie about her escapades with male classmates to assuage their adolescent anxieties.

Penn Badgley, Amanda Bynes, Thomas Haden Church, Lisa Kudrow, Patricia Clarkson, Stanley Tucci, Fred Armisen and Dan Byrd were among the cast of the comedy, directed by Will Gluck. It grossed \$75 million worldwide.

The next film will take place at the same high school and echo many of the same themes, but will feature a new set of students.

## Pro gamer writing books, graphic novel

After dominating the digital world, Tyler "Ninja" Blevins is branching out — offline.

Blevins, 28, revealed Wednesday he is writing three books to be published later this year, including a how-to on streaming video games and a graphic novel.

The professional gamer and personality has made millions streaming Fortnite and other games. He has more than 14 million followers on Twitch and 22 million subscribers on YouTube.

"Ninja: Get Good" and "Ninja Notebook" will be released in tandem in August and are aimed at children 10 and up. The former includes Blevins' advice for building a gaming PC, developing skills and strategies in games, cultivating an online community and other key to pro gaming.

The graphic novel, "Ninja: The Most Dangerous Game," is aimed at young adults and set for release in December.

## Other news

■ Jim Pike, co-founder and lead singer of The Lettermen, whose lush vocal harmonies made the Grammy-nominated trio one of the most popular vocal groups of the 1960s, died June 9 at age 82. The cause was complications of Parkinson's disease.



## Russell says Abrams' latest Star Wars script made her cry

Keri Russell says that when J.J. Abrams sent her his version of the script for "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker," it overwhelmed her.

"When I read his script that he wrote, I cried," she told The Associated Press in a recent interview.

Abrams directs the film, which is the final chapter in the Skywalker story that started with 1977's "Star Wars" — Episode IV: A New Hope.

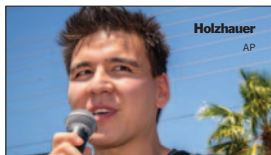
Russell plays a new character named Rozzi Bliss. She can't reveal much about the character except that she loves the costume. She calls the character and her look "bad ass."

She recalled Abrams told her she would need to wear a helmet. "I was like, 'That is my dream job. I can see everyone. One can see me. Hello, Amazing!'"

The two have history: Abrams co-created the series "Felicity," for which Russell won a Golden Globe.

"Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker" is scheduled for release on Dec. 20.

From The Associated Press



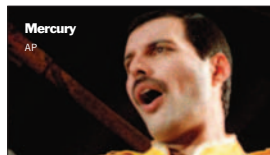
## 'Jeopardy!' champ Holzhauer a winner in TV ratings, too

A case can be made that "Jeopardy!" savant James Holzhauer is one of the year's biggest TV stars, although a short-lived one.

An estimated 14.5 million people watched him on June 3, when the professional gambler from Las Vegas lost for first time after 32 consecutive wins and \$2,464,216 in prize money, the Nielsen company said. He left with the 16 highest one-day scores in the show's history.

No television series this season (football excluded) averaged more viewers per episode on the first night it aired. The initial airing of the "Game of Thrones" series finale on HBO, considered the biggest TV event of the year, reached 13.6 million people, Nielsen said. The first four games of the NBA Finals between Toronto and Golden State had few viewers in the U.S. than Chicago librarian Emma Beutcher's takedown of Holzhauer. It was the biggest audience for the show in 14 years, since 18 million people watched on the night that Jennings' 74-game winning streak was snapped.

From The Associated Press



## Unheard song from Queen frontman Mercury released

A stripped-down version of "Time" by Queen frontman Freddie Mercury has resurfaced more than 30 years after it was recorded.

Mercury's friend Dave Clark produced and released the track and music video on June 20 under the title "Time Waits for No One." It's a bare-bones rendition of the ballad showcasing the late singer's powerful voice, paired only with pianist Mike Moran.

It was originally recorded in 1986 for the concept album of the musical "Time."

But it was Mercury's original recording of the ballad in London's storied Abbey Road Studios that had deeply moved Clark, according to a statement posted on Mercury's website.

Clark retrieved the original recording from his tape archive in the spring of 2018 and opted to allow the buzz around the Oscar-winning "Bohemian Rhapsody" biopic about Mercury to subside before releasing it.

Mercury died of AIDS-related pneumonia in 1991 at 45.

From The Los Angeles Times

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## OPINION

## Sci-fiprescriptions for dying coral reefs

By USHA LEE MCFARLING

Los Angeles Times

The Great Barrier Reef is bleached and dying. Because oceans are heating so quickly, nearly all of the world's corals are projected to be dead by 2050.

Now, however, a handful of entrepreneurial scientists, many of whom have spent their careers studying the reefs that are dying before their eyes, are devising extreme measures to try to save them. Many of the solutions seem as if they're ripped from some dystopian, science-fiction novel. There are teams trying to brighten clouds so they reflect more sunlight back to space, others who want to apply floating sunscreen to acres of ocean surface. There are robots programmed to hunt and kill coral predators and groups scouring the globe for "supercorals" or attempting to breed them.

The dedication of these coral experts attempting scientific Hail Marys to save their reefs is inspiring, their technological savvy heroic. But it's also heartbreaking in reality. It's the feeling of being overwhelmed by polluting and warming our oceans that we now must resort to almost fantastical measures to save our reefs. And some of the proposed solutions have raised worries about unintended consequences.

For decades, the world's coral reefs have been subject to assaults including overfishing, pollution and habitat destruction. But the main enemy of these massive colonies of tiny marine invertebrates is global warming. Even a temperature rise of a few degrees, as the Great Barrier Reef has seen during marine heat waves in recent years, can cause bleaching, in which the algae aspel the symbiotic bacteria that live inside them and feed them. The increasing

acidity caused by excess carbon dioxide absorbed by the ocean makes it hard for corals to build their shells. Sea level rise and stronger storms damage reefs as well. The outlook is bleak.

So coral scientists, fueled by money from Google, the late Paul Allen and the Australian government, are trying whatever they can. One plan calls for using cannons to shoot nanodroplets of salt into clouds to brighten them so they reflect more sunlight back into space. Another project involves pumping layers of polymer film, far thinner than a human hair, over ocean waters to act as floating sunscreen.

There are proposals to pump cold water up from the ocean depths to lower the temperature of shallow coral lagoons, cover reefs with massive floating shade structures and even pulse sickly reefs with electrical currents to speed their growth.

One scientist has developed a "Rangerbot" that could autonomously roam reefs, launching torpedoes armed with bile salts to kill the voracious crown-of-thorns starfish that chew their way through reefs and have become more voracious in the acidified waters of our warming world.

Others want to spray reefs with antibiotics or bacteria-gobbling viruses to prevent disease. Wellness cures that seem inspired by pricey spa menus are abundant as well. There are suggestions for antioxidants and nutritional supplements for coral, and, of course, researchers are tinkering with the coral microbiome.

Some teams are scouring the globe looking for "super corals" that have evolved to grow happily in naturally hotter areas such as the volcanic vents, coastal mangroves and the Persian Gulf, to see if the animals can still thrive if relocated to areas where other corals have died.

## Kids growing horns on their heads? Don't panic.

By MOLLY KASHUB

The Washington Post

Kids are growing horns on their heads, and guess what? It's technology's fault.

That's not exactly horns, to be clear. Technically they're enlarged external occipital protuberances, and slightly less technically, they're bone spurs — brought on by weight shifting from the spine to the base of the skull, which happens over and over again when you're living life tethered to a miniature screen. But bone spurs are boring and routine, while horns are the stuff of animals. They're the stuff of the devil himself, if you want to get dramatic about it.

Horns, in other words, make for a much better metaphor: Technology is turning us into monsters.

The hornlike formation protruding from young adults these days, a scientist told The Washington Post, is "a portent of something nasty going on elsewhere." He means a physical misalignment, but "portent" and "nasty" are wonderfully ominous words to describe the general sense of doom that has overcome the population lately when it comes to technology. There's the surveillance capitalism that motivates technology companies to track users across the web, and there are the actual surveillance states that harness facial recognition tools to repress and (clinical profile) their citizens. There's the trend of radicalization that has encouraged multiple mass shooters in the past 12 months alone. There's the spread of misinformation that has Americans living in worlds governed by what they see as completely separate sets of facts.

Look at the past week, starting with those potentially horned children. The

government, The Washington Post reported on Wednesday, is investigating YouTube for hoovering up children's data, plus failing to protect them from corrosive content such as cartoon character Peppa Pig smoking marijuana or tips on committing suicide. That content threatens not just toddlers who watch, but the people who try to protect them. Contract moderators at Facebook, tasked with taking down some of the most vile material on the web, are suffering from depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, the Verge reported.

Meanwhile, frenzied debate raged over the seemingly minor topic of Harvard rescinding the admission of Kyle Kashuv for typing the n-word 11 times on a Google Doc. Kashuv is a one-time employee of Turning Point USA, itself famous for running a website with a "watch list" of professors who purportedly "advocate anti-gay propaganda in the classroom." It's McCarthysm, but for the internet!

You get the idea: The internet is evil. But what's truly alarming about these problems is that it's not only the internet causing them. It's us. We're the ones who are chasing the headlines. We're the ones who would rather argue endlessly over whether the words "concentration camp" are sacrosanct than focus on the immigrants dying in detention. We're addicts, and the internet has given us more to get addicted to more easily. We're prone to radicalization, and we're so hooked on the news that we reach the radicalizers. We're polarized, and the internet has set up all sorts of magnets to push us further apart.

Maybe the instant-sharing mechanism of that Google Doc encouraged Kashuv to write the n-word all those times, or maybe without a computer he just wouldn't have said it out loud. True, Harvard probably

And then there's a kind of "coral IVF" mixing coral sperm and eggs in the lab to assist reproduction. The offspring are sometimes grown directly onto small clips for easy reintegration back onto reefs or placed on giant offshore plastic "trees" made of PVC pipe to grow up.

Many of the scientists working on these imaginative remedies admit the ideas seem crazy. In fact, some of those involved with the coral rescue projects today described them as "silly," "ridiculous" or "out there" just a few years ago. But coral reefs are collapsing so fast that many scientists have shifted into extreme rescue mode.

The work on remedies is moving quickly too, which has caused some alarm. In Australia, environmental lawyers are trying to get project leaders to think about regulation, environmental impact and community buy-in before projects progress farther.

Because many of the plans could have global implications, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine has also gotten involved, releasing two reports on how such work should proceed.

Coral reefs — great, silent underwater ecosystems — are wellsprings of marine life, protectors of coastlines and anchors of a vast, global food chain. And they are on the front lines as our planet warms.

Coral scientists were among the first to warn us that global warming was radically harming our seas and to call for curbing our ravenous appetite for fossil fuels. But it seems we weren't listening. Now, they are once again in the vanguard, plotting out revolutionary measures — many of which could backfire in unexpected ways — to save our reefs, our planet and ourselves.

Usha Lee McFarling, a former Los Angeles Times science writer, was co-winner of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for explanatory journalism for a set of articles about the crisis facing the world's oceans.

would never have known, but would that be better?

Horns, in our cultural canon, are a material manifestation of something within. They're part of us. These gadgets and services that we call technology today were always supposed to be life-saving, but they were supposed to turn us into superheroes — not transform us into Marvel-style villains, complete with devil-like head growths to signal our corruption. Yet now we have horns, and we can't just wash them off our heads. All we can do, according to horns research, but that doesn't prevent us from developing "coping mechanisms" to reduce that spine-to-skull friction.

Of course, we can't develop coping mechanisms for the internet if we're too busy panicking. At least one scientist has already questioned the accuracy of the horns research, but that doesn't prevent its allure. Much as horns make for a much better metaphor, they make for a much better headline, a reality that itself is indicative of our internet-era malady.

When something is scary, it's difficult to focus on anything but the scary stuff. When there are horns growing on people's heads, there's little incentive to talk about legislating privacy for the digital age or tweaking algorithms away from extremism. There's also little incentive to talk about the good things the internet brought along, and how to use them.

Most of all, there's an excuse not to examine the even scarier ways in which the web only amplifies who the people and societies using it already are. We can worry about horns all we like, but we should make sure we're figuring out how to tame the beast — not feeding it instead.

Molly Roberts writes about technology and society for The Washington Post's Opinions section.

## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Fed says largest banks would survive a crisis

By KEN SWEET  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — All 18 of the nation's largest and most complex banks are strong enough to withstand a severe economic downturn and would be able to stay in business without collapsing, the Federal Reserve said Friday.

The results are part of the first round of the central bank's annual stress tests, which showed the 18 big banks have benefited from an improving economy and have balance sheets strong enough to

withstand a deep global downturn and the U.S. unemployment rate rising to double digits.

The Fed adjusts its stress tests each year, depending on the economic climate. In this year's most dire scenario, known as the severely adverse scenario, the Federal Reserve tested for a hypothetical deep global recession, with the U.S. unemployment rate jumping to 10% from its current level of 4% and the stock market falling 50% from its peak.

The Fed also tested how well

the nation's largest banks would handle a sharp drop in commercial real estate prices, as well as heightened stress in the corporate debt markets. Several economists and bank executives have cited the substantial increase in loans made to distressed companies, known as leveraged lending, as an area of concern for the financial system.

Capital One, which has a large commercial banking business, was the most negatively affected by the Fed's scenario but still

remained more than well capitalized under the Fed's qualifications. In a sign of how much better banks are protected compared with a decade ago, all 18 banks would have more capital on their balance sheets under the Fed's dire scenario than they had before the 2008 financial crisis.

It was the eighth annual check-up for the banks, mandated by Congress after the financial crisis that triggered the Great Recession. The Federal Reserve tested a smaller number of banks this

year, instead of the 35 that were tested in previous years. Congress passed a law in 2018 that rolled back some of the regulations put into place under the Dodd-Frank Act, one of them being the need to stress test every bank over a certain threshold of assets.

The Fed this week will release the second part of its tests, which are more closely watched. The Fed will determine whether individual big banks will be allowed to boost their dividends and buy back shares.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (June 24)	\$1.1617
Dollar buys (June 24)	€0.8608
British pound (June 24)	\$1.30
Japanese yen (June 24)	106.00
South Korean won (June 24)	1,131.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound	\$1.2736
Canada (Dollar)	1.3210
China (Yuan)	6.8700
Denmark (Krone)	6.5677
Egypt (Pound)	16.6900
Euro	\$1.1369/0.8796
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8110
Hungary (Forint)	285.23
Israel (Shekel)	3.6217
Japan (Yen)	107.41
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3036
Norway (Krone)	8.5011
Philippines (Peso)	51.45
Poland (Zloty)	3.74
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7505
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3555
South Korea (Won)	1,158.33
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9788
Thailand (Baht)	30.478
Turkey (Lira)	5.6148

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance. For Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, nonmilitary exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.50
Discount rate	3.00
Federated Reserve market rate	3.38
3-month bill	2.06
30-year bond	2.56

## Aviation looks for greener alternatives amid pressure

By TARA PATEL  
Bloomberg

Tucked away among the more conventional passenger and military planes on display at the Paris Air Show sat a little nine-passenger aircraft offering a glimpse into the future.

The all-electric prototype developed by Israeli venture capital-backed Eviation Aircraft Ltd. was shipped to the biennial exhibit in pieces because it's never been flown before. Yet the battery-powered aircraft called the Alice snagged its first customer, Cape Air, and is aiming for commercial flights in about three years.

The plane has drawn out-sized interest because the aviation industry is increasingly under pressure about carbon emissions from burning kerosene. Air travel is on track to become the single biggest emitter of carbon dioxide within three decades if forecast cuts in other sectors materialize, according to data and projections



JASPER JIJUNEN/BLOOMBERG

**An Alice electric aircraft manufactured by Eviation Aircraft and displayed at the Paris Air Show last week offers a preview of the future of more environmentally friendly aviation.**

from U.N. agencies. While energy generation and agriculture dwarf aviation's approximately 2% share of all human-caused greenhouse gases, output from air travel is accelerating many times faster.

"We don't have a solution and it's a really hard problem," said Paul Eremenko, chief technology officer at United Technologies Corp., owner of jet engine maker Pratt & Whitney. "We're going to have to innovate our way out."

He was speaking on possible remedies at a press conference with executives from plane manufacturers Airbus, Boeing and Dassault Aviation as well as engine makers Rolls-Royce Holdings, General Electric and Safran. The companies on Tuesday agreed to cooperate in a number of areas.

They called for development of aircraft and engines that are more fuel-efficient and emit less

carbon dioxide. They also backed use and wider availability of alternative aviation fuels and the development of "third-generation" aviation that would include electric and hybrid engines and new materials.

Even before the Paris show, the warning lights were on for the industry. Augustin de Romanet, head of airport operator Aeroports de Paris, said the sector is becoming the "scapegoat" of the transport industry when it comes to emissions.

Already in markets like Scandinavia, the concept of flight-shaming is gaining traction to prevent people from using aircraft excessively and get them to switch to alternative modes of transport. Yet unlike the car industry, which has long had to abide by rules on exhaust, aviation has been exempt from binding measures.

Airplane pollution, which has risen by about two-thirds since 2005, is forecast to jump as much as sevenfold by 2050, according to the Montreal-based ICAO.

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

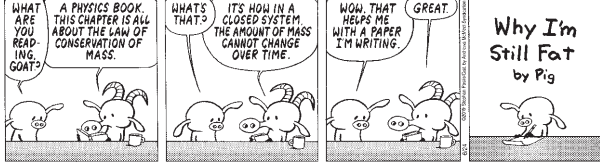
Frazz



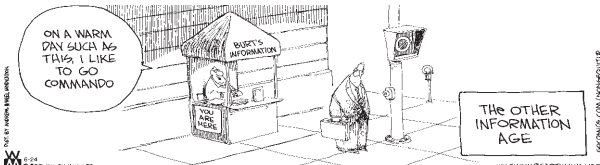
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



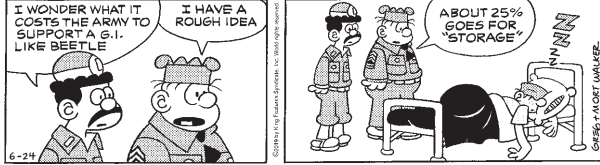
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15								16		
			17				18	19		
20	21	22				23				
24						25			26	27
28						29			30	31
	32		33					34		
			35					36		
37	38	39					40			
41						42	43		44	45
47						48				
49						50			51	

## ACROSS

- 1 Angelic ring
- 5 Little rascal
- 8 Burlap fiber
- 12 Switchboard worker
- 14 Barak of Israel
- 15 Longtime CBS News anchor Walter
- 16 Chinese secret society
- 17 Aachen article
- 18 Glide
- 20 Long
- 23 Pack of cards
- 24 Wan
- 25 Wood eater
- 28 1959 Kingston Trio hit
- 29 Relinquish
- 30 Flamenco cheer
- 32 "Charlotte's Web" author
- 34 Boring
- 35 Unctuous
- 36 Test versions
- 37 Catch some Z's
- 40 Flow out
- 41 Young cow
- 42 Almost
- 47 Leer at
- 48 Acts altruistically
- 49 Despot

## DOWN

- 1 Ad —
- 2 Earth Day mo.
- 3 Zodiac cat
- 4 Cantankerous
- 5 "Don't rub —!"
- 6 Witticism
- 7 Keep from spoiling
- 8 Lakeside rental
- 9 "Oops!"
- 10 Casserole base
- 11 Jittery
- 13 Related
- 19 Summit
- 20 Noble veggie
- 21 Noble Italian family

- 22 Pequod captain
- 23 God
- 25 Hindmost parts
- 26 Talk up
- 27 First lady of scat
- 29 Brainiac
- 31 Goller Ernie
- 33 Stereo component
- 34 Fixes, as software
- 36 Cookouts, briefly
- 37 Highlander
- 38 Kvetches
- 39 Stewpot
- 40 Summers in Paris
- 43 Tic-tac-toe win
- 44 Debtor's note
- 45 Heavy weight
- 46 Mag. staff

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	E	S	H	C	O	L	E	M	E	H
A	L	P	O	E	M	I	T	A	X	E
C	I	A	O	M	I	L	E	M	A	R
H	A	R	D	E	T	A	L	A	M	B
				W	I	N		C	H	I
S	P	R	I	N	T			S	A	V
P	O	I	N	T				R	E	A
A	W	A	K	E	N			B	E	L
				E	L	O		A	M	I
F	E	U	D		R	A	M		H	O
I	N	N		B	U	L	B		O	K
J	O	T		A	S	T	O		O	R
I	S	O		S	H	O			D	A

## 6-24

## CRYPTOQUIP

Q X F R A T E J Z O T Q A R W  
C R W T Y R E D B U R B R Z K E K S G T J R  
Y T V R W T X C U R A J - R A E T A V R R G :

"S Y T K S T F T S V X O Q A D."  
Saturday's Cryptquip: NAME GIVEN TO A  
CELLPHONE SERVICE CORPORATION LOCATED  
IN BIRMINGHAM'S STATE; MOBILE ALABAMA.  
Today's Cryptquip Clue: J equals T




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Be aware of the common red flags.

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- ❑ People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

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## Deals

## Saturday's transactions

**BASEBALL**  
**American League**  
**BALTIMORE ORIOLES** — Options Left  
San Gilmarin to Norfolk (L). Selected  
contract of RHP Matt Waters from  
Norfolk.

**CLEVELAND INDIANS** — Selected the  
contract of RHP Aaron Crow from Co-  
lumbus (L). Designated Of Leonys Mar-  
tin for assignment.

**MINNESOTA TWINS** — Reinstated  
RHP Blake Parker from the family med-  
ical emergency list. Options RHP Kohl  
Stewart to Rochester (L).

**MILWAUKEE BREWERS** — Recalled  
RHP Aaron Wilkerson from the family  
medical emergency list.

**PITTSBURGH PIRATES** — Placed Of  
Greg Polanco on the 10-day IL, retroac-  
tive to June 19. Recalled Of Jason Mar-  
tin from Indianapolis.

**HOCKEY**  
**National Hockey League**  
**CAROLINA HURRICANES** — Acquired  
C Patrick Marleau and conditional 2020  
first-round draft pick from the San Jose  
Sharks for Toronto for a 2020 sixth-round  
draft pick.

**CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS** — Acquired F  
John Quenneville from New Jersey for F  
John Hayden.

**LOS ANGELES KINGS** — Acquired a  
2019 (No. 50) second-round draft from  
Montreal for the 2019 second- (No. 44)  
and fifth-round (No. 126) draft picks.

**ATLANTA DEVILS** — Acquired D PK  
Subban from Nashville for D Steven San-  
to, D Jeremy Davis, a 2019 second-  
round draft pick and a 2020 second-  
round draft pick.

**OTTAWA SENATORS** — Acquired the  
2019 second-round (No. 37) draft pick from  
Montreal for the 2019 second- (No. 40)  
and third-round (No. 83) draft picks.

**EDMONTON FLYERS** — Acquired the  
2019 second-round (No. 34) draft pick  
from Nashville for the 2019 second- (No. 45)  
and third-round (No. 95) draft picks.

**TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING** — Acquired  
a 2019 second-round draft pick from  
the Pittsburgh Penguins for a 2019  
third-round (No. 71) draft pick and  
O Marek Mazanec from Vancouver for F  
JT Miller.

**TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS** — Traded F  
Patrick Marleau to Chicago for a condi-  
tional 2020 first-round draft pick and a  
2020 seventh-round draft pick.

**GLASSBORO GOLDEN KNIGHTS** — Acquired  
the 2019 second-round (No. 41) draft pick  
from the San Jose Sharks for a 2019  
second- (No. 48) and third-round (No. 82)  
draft picks.

**SOCCER**  
**Orange County SC** Signed D Michael  
Orozco.

## College baseball

## College World Series

**At TD Ameritrade Park Omaha**  
**Omaha, Neb.**  
**(Double Elimination; 1st necessary)**  
**Saturday, June 15**

Michigan 5, Texas Tech 3  
Florida State 1, Arkansas 0

**Sunday, June 16**  
Vanderbilt 3, Louisville 1  
Mississippi State 5, Auburn 4

**Monday, June 17**  
Texas Tech 5, Arkansas 4, Arkansas  
eliminated

**Tuesday, June 18**  
Louisville 2, Florida State 0  
Michigan 4, Auburn 1, 5 Innings, susp.  
rain

**Wednesday, June 19**  
Louisville 5, Auburn 3, Auburn elimi-  
nated

**Thursday, June 20**  
Louisville 4, Mississippi State 3, MSU  
eliminated

**Friday, June 21**  
Michigan 15, Texas Tech 3, TTU elimi-  
nated

**Saturday, June 22**  
Vanderbilt 3, Louisville 2, Louisville  
eliminated

**Championship Series**  
**(Best-of-3)**  
**Monday** Michigan (48-20) vs. Vander-  
bilt (37-11)

**Tuesday** Michigan vs. Vanderbilt  
**Wednesday** Michigan vs. Vander-  
bilt

## Soccer

## CONCACAF Gold Cup

x-advanced to quarterfinal

GROUP A	GP	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
x-Mexico	2	2	0	0	0	6	6
Costa Rica	2	1	0	1	5	3	3
Martinique	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Cuba	2	0	2	0	2	10	0

**Saturday, June 22**  
**At Pasadena, Calif.**

Canada 4, Martinique 0

Mexico 7, Cuba 0

**Wednesday, June 19**  
**At Denver**

Martinique 3, Cuba 0

**Sunday, June 23**  
**At Charlotte, N.C.**

Canada vs. Cuba

Martinique vs. Mexico

**GROUP B**

x-Costa Rica	GP	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
x-Haiti	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Bermuda	2	0	0	2	6	6	0
Honduras	2	0	2	0	6	0	0

**Sunday, June 16**  
**At San Jose, Costa Rica**

Haiti 2, Bermuda 1

Costa Rica 0, Nicaragua 0

**Thursday, June 20**  
**At Dallas, Texas**

Haiti 2, Nicaragua 0

Costa Rica 2, Bermuda 1

**Monday, June 24**  
**At Harrison, N.J.**

Bermuda vs. Honduras

Haiti vs. Costa Rica

**GROUP C**

Jamaica	GP	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
Salvador	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Curacao	2	0	1	1	3	3	1
Honduras	2	0	2	0	2	4	0

**Monday, June 17**  
**At Kingston, Jamaica**

El Salvador 1, Curacao 0

Jamaica 3, Honduras 2

**Friday, June 21**  
**At Houston**

El Salvador 0, Jamaica 0

Curacao 1, Honduras 0

**Tuesday, June 25**  
**At Los Angeles**

Jamaica vs. Curacao

Honduras vs. F. Salvador

**GROUP D**

x-United States	GP	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
x-Panama	2	2	0	0	6	0	6
Trinidad	2	0	0	2	6	0	0
Trinidad	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

**Tuesday, June 18**  
**At St. Paul, Minn.**

Panama 2, Trinidad 0, 20th game

United States 4, Guyana 0

**Saturday, June 22**  
**At Cleveland**

Panama 4, Guyana 2

U.S. 6, Trinidad and Tobago 0

**Wednesday, June 26**  
**At Kansas City, Kan.**

Trinidad and Tobago 0, Guyana

United States vs. United States

**QUARTERFINALS**  
**Saturday, June 29**

Group B second place vs. Group A first place

Group A first place vs. Group B second place

**Sunday, June 30**  
**At Philadelphia**

Group C first place vs. Group D second place

Group D first place vs. Group C second place

**SEMIFINALS**  
**Wednesday, June 27**

Houston quarterfinal winners

Philadelphia quarterfinal winners

**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**Sunday, July 1**

At Chicago

Semifinal winners, 9 p.m.

**Sunday, June 15**

**US 6, Trinidad 0**

**At Cleveland**

**United States 1, 5-6**

**Monday, June 16**

**United States, 1-0**

**(Pulisc), 41st minute.**

**Second half—United States, Zardes**

**2, 69th minute; 3, United States, Zardes**

**3, (Pulisc), 69th minute; 4, United States,**

**Pulisc 1, (Morris), 73rd minute; 5, United**

**States, Arriola 2, (Morris), 78th minute; 6,**

**United States, Long 2, 90th minute.**

**Yellow cards—Alones, Tri, 40th; Cyrus,**

**Tri, 58th; McKennie, US, 58th; Jones, Tri,**

**89th. A—23,221.**

**NWSL**

**Washington 5, 1-3 18 13 9**

**Portland 4, 1-4 14 16 17 11**

**North Carolina 3, 2-2 13 17 13**

**Houston 3, 2-2 14 10 11 11**

**Pulisc 1, (Morris), 73rd minute; 5, United**

**States, Arriola 2, (Morris), 78th minute; 6,**

**United States, Long 2, 90th minute.**

**Yellow cards—Alones, Tri, 40th; Cyrus,**

**Tri, 58th; McKennie, US, 58th; Jones, Tri,**

**89th. A—23,221.**

## MLS

Eastern Conference

Philadelphia	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	8	7	3	27	21	28
D.C. United	8	4	6	27	18	26
Atlanta	8	6	6	24	19	17
New York	7	6	3	24	17	19
New York City FC	7	6	3	24	17	19
Toronto FC	6	7	4	24	16	28

Chicago 6, 5-7 18 22 21

Orlando City 5, 9-2 18 22 21

Columbus 5, 7-2 16 24 24

New England 5, 12-7 17 33

Cincinnati 3, 12-7 11 14 35

**Western Conference**

Los Angeles FC	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
LA Galaxy	10	6	1	31	24	19
Seattle	7	4	5	26	21	21
FC Dallas	7	4	5	26	21	21
Houston	7	4	5	26	21	21
Portland	6	3	5	23	22	22
Real Salt Lake	6	8	2	20	28	28
San Jose	5	6	3	18	23	23
Vancouver	4	6	7	19	22	22
Portland	5	7	2	17	23	26
Colorado	5	9	4	16	37	38
Spokane FC	3	5	16	26	27	27

**Note:** Three points for victory, one point for tie.

**Saturday, June 22**

FC Dallas 2, Cincinnati 0

FC Dallas 3, Toronto FC 0

Real Salt Lake 1, Chicago 1, tie

Colorado 2, Vancouver 2, tie

Portland 4, Houston 0

**Sunday, June 23**

Sporting Kansas City at Columbus

**Wednesday**

Philadelphia at New England

Houston at Montreal

Atlanta at Toronto FC

San Jose at D.C. United

Vancouver at FC Dallas

Houston at San Jose

**Friday, June 28**

Chicago at New York

Los Angeles FC at Portland

**Saturday, June 29**

Cincinnati at Minnesota United

Miami at Atlanta

Philadelphia at New York City

Orlando City at Columbus

San Jose at D.C. United

LA Galaxy at Seattle

Portland at Real Salt Lake

Vancouver at San Jose

**Saturday**

**Timbers 4, Dynamo 0**

**Houston 0-0-0**

**Portland 1-1-1**

**FC Dallas 1-1, Portland, 1-0**

**(Moreira), 39th minute.**

**Second half—2, Portland, Valeri, 4**

**(Ozalca), 42nd minute; 3, Portland, Valeri,**

**dez, 5 (Valeri), 53rd; 4, Portland, Ebo**

**Alones, 58th minute.**

**Goalies—Houston, Joe Willis, Michael**

**Moreira, 39th minute; Steve Clark, 41st**

**minute.**

**Yellow Cards—Portland, Cascante,**

**12th; Harris, 31st; Valeri, 54th; Houston,**

**Martinez, 16th; Pena, 34th; Veraz, 47th.**

**Rapids 2, Whitecaps 2**

**Colorado 2-0-2**

**Vancouver 1-2-2**

**First half—1, Colorado, Rubio, 3**

**(Ozalca), 38th minute; 2, Colorado,**

**Shimayoshi, 4 (Kamara), 20th; 3, Vancouver,**

**Colorado, 6 (penalty kick), 45th.**

**Goalies—Colorado, Tim Howard, Clint**

**Irwin; Vancouver, Zach MacMath, Sean**

**McLain.**

**Yellow Cards—Colorado, Kamara,**

**27th; Shimayoshi, 54th; Portland,**

**Abubakar, 50th; Vancouver, Eger, 61st.**

**A—19,893.**

**FC Dallas 3, Toronto FC 0**

**Toronto 0-0-0**

**First half—1, Dallas, Badji, 3 (Ferreira),**

**41st minute.**

**Second half—2, Dallas, Bressan, 1**

**(Barrios), 51st; 3, Dallas, Badji, 4 (Fer-**

**reira), 50th minute.**

**Goalies—Toronto, Quentin Westberg,**

**Colin Patterson-Sewell; Dallas, Jesse**



## NHL/NBA

# Salary-cap deals dominate second day of NHL Draft

By JOHN WAWROW  
Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — The traditional team-by-team roll call to open the second day of the NHL Draft hadn't yet begun when the league's looming salary-cap crunch began overshadowing the final six rounds Saturday.

Norris Trophy-winning defenseman P.K. Subban is off to New Jersey. Forward Patrick Marleau, a 21-year veteran, is headed to Carolina. And center J.T. Miller, one year into a five-year \$26.25 million contract, was traded to Vancouver.

The common denominator spurring each of the trades were teams seeking to shed salaries to address more pressing roster needs before the NHL's free agency period opens July 1. And the urgency to make the trades became more real when the league and NHL Players' Association announced next year's salary cap was set at \$81.5 million — \$1.5 million lower than initially projected.

"We had to make a business decision," Nashville Predators general manager David Poile said about trading Subban.

And then there was Toronto Maple Leafs GM Kyle Dubas, who only two days ago suggested there was "a strong chance" Marleau would be back for the final year of his contract.

"I think everyone here knows how we feel about Patrick Marleau and what he has done for our organization," Dubas said, noting he kept Marleau informed of trade talks. "We didn't want to do one of those trades where it was moving a salary or a cap hit that was going to take anybody off our roster."

For Toronto, losing the 39-year-old Marleau — and his \$6.2 million salary — provides more flexibility to re-sign 22-year-old Mitchell Marner, a restricted free agent after completing his three-year, level-contract.

Miller became expendable in Tampa Bay, where the Lightning are focused on re-signing center Brayden Point, also a restricted free agent. As a result, Vancouver added a versatile center while giving up journeyman minor-league goalie Marek Mazanec and two draft picks in the deal, including a conditional 2020 first-round selection.

The trades started before Ottawa opened the second round by selecting American center Shane Pinto at No. 32 overall, and pushing the conclusion of the draft into the background.

The Devils came away the

## Draft-day deals

The second day of the NHL Draft was dominated by trades involving veteran players:

■ Nashville sent defenseman P.K. Subban to New Jersey for defencemen Steven Santini and Jeremy Davies, plus second-round choices in 2019 and 2020.

■ Toronto sent forward Patrick Marleau and two 2020 draft choices to Carolina and received a 6th-round pick in 2020.

■ Tampa Bay sent center J.T. Miller to Vancouver for minor-league goalie Marek Mazanec and two draft choices.

SOURCE: NHL.com

big winners. A day after taking American center Jack Hughes at No. 1 overall, New Jersey acquired Subban in a trade with Nashville. The Predators picked up defencemen Steven Santini and Jeremy Davies, plus the 34th pick in this year's draft and a second-round pick next year.

"We have cap space, cap space, cap space, and we said if there was a time to book it now, we did," Devils GM Ray Shero said of adding Subban and his \$9 million salary cap hit over each of the next three seasons. New Jersey could afford it after entering the offseason with about \$34 million salary cap space available.

"P.K. is excited," Shero said. "It's great for our market."

Subban released a video on social media in which he thanked the Predators and their fans, and then looked forward to joining the Devils.

Marleau, meanwhile, has a decision to make as to whether he'll play for Carolina or have the team offer him a buyout.

Hurricanes GM Don Waddell said he's open to either option. The key for Carolina in the deal was acquiring a conditional first-round pick in next year's draft. As for the draft, Pinto is from Franklin Square, N.Y., and his selection continued a trend in which 11 American players were chosen in the first round — one short of the record set in 2016.



JAE C. HONG/AP

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, right, signals while coaching at a high school basketball camp Sunday in Tokyo. Curry said he is looking ahead to playing in next year's Tokyo Olympics.

# Curry talks about Olympics, Hachimura on visit to Japan

By JIM ARMSTRONG  
Associated Press

TOKYO — Stephen Curry is already looking ahead to the next challenge in his basketball career, including the chance to represent the United States at next year's Tokyo Olympics.

Just over a week since his Golden State Warriors lost a grueling NBA Finals to the Toronto Raptors, Curry was in Tokyo on Sunday talking about the Olympics and the opportunity to face Japan's newest basketball sensation.

The U.S. has won the gold medal in the last three Olympics and will be the favorite to top the podium again in Tokyo with a Dream Team that could feature such stars as Curry, LeBron James and Kawhi Leonard.

Curry decided to pull out of the Rio Olympics due to several factors, including ankle and knee injuries.

"I know the energy here is going to be amazing," Curry said. "I haven't played in the Olympics before. I've played in two World Cup teams so I've had the experience of representing my country playing for the national team. But the Olympics, from everybody that I've talked to that's played, there's no comparison to that experience."

Curry was in Tokyo for a youth basketball clinic and was asked about Rui Hachimura, who became the first player from Japan picked in the first round of the NBA Draft when he was taken with the No. 9 overall pick by the Washington Wizards on Thursday.

"It's exciting for the NBA to have representation from Japan and countries all over the world," Curry said. "It speaks to how the

game of basketball is growing everywhere, especially here. For him to be a trailblazer in terms of doing something that has never been done is good for this country."

The 6-foot-8, 235-pound Hachimura averaged a team-leading 19.7 points and 6.5 rebounds last season as a junior at Gonzaga, where he was the West Coast Conference player of the year.

The only other Japanese player drafted in NBA history was Yas-

utaka Okayama, who went 171st overall in 1981 but never appeared in a regular-season game.

"Just from watching him play, I know he's got good size, obviously," Curry said of Hachimura. "He seems to have a high basketball IQ, good touch around the rim too. I'm sure as he gets into the NBA, his game will expand. I think he fits into the direction the NBA is going right now; being able to score and put pressure on the defense no matter what the situation is."

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## COLLEGE WORLD SERIES/OLYMPICS



PAUL HARNIK/AP

Michigan fans cheer on their team in Omaha. The Wolverines are in the College World Series championship for the first time.

## Wolverines turning Omaha into home away from home

By ERIC OLSON  
Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — The Michigan baseball team is feeling right at home in Omaha and the state of Nebraska as its chases the program's first national title since 1962.

Some key moments on the Wolverines' improbable journey occurred here even before the College World Series — such as the losses in Lincoln that cost the Big Ten regular-season title and the walk-off win in the conference tournament at TD Ameritrade Park that probably saved their spot in the national tournament.

Taking it a step further, the Wolverines spent part of Saturday lifting weights at Creighton. That's right, the same facility and same weights used by the Creighton Bluejays — the team Michigan beat in its regional final.

When Michigan (49-20) opens the best-of-three CWS finals against No. 2 national seed Vanderbilt (57-11) on Monday night, it will be playing its ninth game at TD Ameritrade in 34 days.

"I think that's a huge advantage," coach Erik Bakich said. "And what we talked about is ... not making this bigger than it is. TD Ameritrade, between the white lines is exactly the same."

"The difference between the Col-  
Big Ten Tournament and the Col-

## Scoreboard

### College World Series

At Omaha, Neb.  
(Double Elimination; 3rd necessary)  
Championship Series  
(Best-of-three)

Monday: Michigan (49-20) vs. Vanderbilt (57-11)  
Tuesday: Michigan vs. Vanderbilt  
Wednesday: Michigan vs. Vanderbilt

Associated Press

lege World Series is the external — the crowd is full, there's beach balls going everywhere. It's noisy. It's just a lot more uncontrollable and external things that are added to it. So if we can just stay centered and make it about baseball and just get back to focusing on how we play, then we're going to have a lot of success as long as we stay loose."

Michigan advanced to the finals with a 15-3 win over Texas Tech on Friday. The Wolverines are batting a CWS-best .276, their pitching staff has a 2.00 ERA with 25 strikeouts in 27 innings, and they are the only team that has played error-free. Senior walk-on first baseman Jimmy Kerr is batting .462 — best of anyone still playing — with two homers, a triple and a double.

"I feel like I handed the keys off and let someone else drive right now and I'm just a passenger," Bakich said.

# Just 2 candidates remain for Monday's 2026 vote

By GRAHAM DUNBAR  
Associated Press

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — While the Winter Olympics still has issues attracting bidders, two candidates have stayed on Monday's ballot to pick the 2026 host.

The contest is formally a choice between Milan-Cortina and Stockholm-Are. Effectively it is northern Italy against Sweden and Latvia as the costs and duties of Olympic hosting shift from cities to regions and multiple nations.

The International Olympic Committee hopes — and arguably needs — the 2026 Winter Games to ease concerns of taxpayers worldwide that hosting a two-week sports festival would be a too-expensive luxury.

"Both countries are very traditional and strong winter sport countries," said IOC President Thomas Bach, who wanted a return to Europe after two Winter Games in Asia.

Pyeongchang in 2018 will be followed in 2022 by Beijing, which took advantage of European rivals, including Stockholm, being wary of the cost or rejected by local voters.

Both 2026 candidates likely would have dropped out of previous contests that had stricter rules and deadlines.

Now, the IOC makes fewer demands early in the process, urges using existing venues and coaxes candidates by letting them secure key government promises up to the last minute.

Milan emerged strongest last month from an Olympic panel's evaluation.

Still, the votes of around 85 IOC members — many from countries with little snow and ice sports tradition — can be tough to read for Winter Games.

Here's a look at the vote:

**Northern Italy vs. Sweden/Latvia:** Milan is the city base, sharing the bid name with picturesque Alpine ski resort Cortina d'Ampezzo about 250 miles away from Rome. Other towns in the middle would also stage events.

A wider spread three-way hosting with Turin further west was avoided when the 2006 Winter Games host withdrew last year.

Milan's storied 80,000-seat San Siro soccer stadium is slated for the opening ceremony, and the closer is a Roman amphitheater in Verona.

Stockholm on Sweden's southern coast is 335 miles from Are in the northwest.

Almost as far across the Baltic Sea is Latvia, which has a bobsled track at Sigulda. It's the best option to avoid building a white elephant venue in Sweden.

"This would give Latvia an Olympic experience the country might not otherwise have the opportunity to enjoy," the IOC evaluation said.

**Olympic experience:** Split-nation hosting is not new to Sweden. In 1956, when Melbourne hosted the

Summer Games in November and December, quarantine rules for horses meant equestrian events were held in Stockholm in June.

Sweden has never held the Winter Games, though Stockholm also hosted the 1912 Summer Games.

Italy has hosted two Winter Games — 1956 in Cortina and 2006 in Turin — plus the 1960 Summer Games in Rome.

**Head-to-head contest:** The IOC has just two candidates for the second straight Winter Games vote.

Four years ago, Beijing won a 44-40 vote narrowly over Almaty, Kazakhstan, after several contenders dropped out, including Stockholm in the early stages.

For 2026, a St. Moritz-Davos plan failed for the second straight time, and Switzerland's next option, Sion, was downed in a public vote. Opposition from Austrian voters also halted a bid, and the IOC stopped Erzurum, Turkey, going forward. Calgary, the 1988 host, lost a public vote and 1972 host Sapporo, Japan, did not follow through on its initial interest.

**Public support:** The Italian and Swedish bids both had bumpy passages to Lausanne.

The Swedes have been tested to unite lawmakers. A new city government in Stockholm only formed in October and is not an official signatory to the key IOC hosting contract.

A minority national government coalition was approved only in January after being in limbo for months.

Italy also formed a new coalition last year, which gave caution to Olympic officials who had seen Rome drop out for the 2020 and 2024 Summer Games. Turin also pulled out in a squabble with Milan.

The IOC's own polling of public enthusiasm showed "83% support in Italy" and "55% in favor in Sweden."

**The budget:** Russia's \$51 billion spending — on venues, transport projects and budget overruns — for the 2014 Winter Games in Sochi still causes shivers in Olympic circles.

The 2026 bid needs to be seen as cost-controlled to help reassure potential future bidders.

The Italians plan for a games operating budget of \$1.7 billion.

The Swedes estimate costs of \$1.4 billion using no public funds.

**Voting process:** The IOC has 95 members, including royalty from Britain, Denmark, Jordan and the Emir of Qatar. Not all will vote Monday.

Three are suspended while implicated in wrongdoing, some rarely attend, while the members from Italy and Sweden are not eligible to vote.

The vote, starting a three-day annual meeting, is at the same SwissTech conference center in Lausanne where two years earlier IOC members agreed to combine the 2024 and 2028 Olympic votes — making winners of both Paris and Los Angeles.

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## MLB

## Roundup

## Yankees down Astros for 8th win in a row

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Giancarlo Stanton hit a pair of go-ahead, two-run singles, both off third baseman Yuli Gurriel's glove, and New York defeated Houston 7-5 for its eighth straight win.

"It's great to be able to contribute to a win finally," Stanton said.

Stanton got his first four RBIs of the season. He's only played seven games, missing 2½ months due to biceps, shoulder and calf injuries. Some fans at Yankee Stadium have booed the 2017 NL MVP as he's struggled to get up to speed.

"You have to give the guy a break," teammate Luke Voit said, adding "just getting those reps in. He won MVP for a reason. It's nice having an MVP hit behind you."

Houston lost its seventh in a row in the matchup of AL division leaders.

Zack Britton earned his third save. The Astros stranded 11 runners.

Gio Urshela and Austin Romine went deep for New York, giving the Yankees a homer in 25 straight games. That tied Joe DiMaggio and the 1941 Yankees for most in franchise history. The 2002 Texas Rangers hold the major league mark at 27.

**Cardinals 4, Angels 2:** Albert Pujols took a curtain call for his adoring fans at Busch Stadium after homering against the Cardinals, but Marcell Ozuna connected to lead Dakota Hudson and host St. Louis.

Pujols hit his 13th home run, a solo drive in the seventh inning. He got a standing ovation as he rounded the bases and the cheers grew louder until Pujols emerged from the dugout and tipped his hat to the sellout crowd.

**Twins 5, Royals 3 (10):** C.J. Cron homered and singled in the go-ahead run in the 10th inning, and Minnesota won at Kansas City. Miguel Sano and Jake Cave also homered for the Twins, who blew a 3-0 lead in the eighth before pushing ahead for good in the 10th. Eddie Rosario's double



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

New York Yankees right fielder Aaron Judge runs past Houston Astros third baseman Yuli Gurriel on the way to scoring on a single by Giancarlo Stanton during the Yankees' 7-5 win Saturday in New York.

to deep right off Wily Peralta (2-3) scored Cave for a two-run cushion.

**Mets 10, Cubs 2:** Rookie slugger Pete Alonso hit his 26th home run to set the NL record for most homers before the All-Star Game as New York won at Chicago.

Alonso broke a tie with Los Angeles' Cody Bellinger (2017). He's still seven short of Mark McGwire's major league record 33 accomplished in 1987.

Todd Frazier and Wilson Ramos also homered for the Mets, who won consecutive road games for the first time in over two months.

**Marlins 5, Phillies 3:** Wilkin Castillo hit a go-ahead two-run double in the seventh inning in his first game back in the majors in 10 years, lifting Miami to a win at Philadelphia.

The Phillies have lost six in a row and 15 of 21.

Justin Brice (1-0) struck out two in a perfect sixth for the last-place Marlins, who've won three in a row.

**Pirates 6, Padres 3:** Adam Frazier hit a tiebreaking, two-run single in the eighth inning and host Pittsburgh beat San Diego.

It was 2-all when Starling Marte led off the eighth with a triple against reliever Craig Stammen (5-4). Josh Bell and Corey Dickerson walked to load the bases, and Frazier singled up the middle. Elias Diaz added on with an RBI single and pinch-hitter Jung Ho Kang had a sacrifice fly.

**Blue Jays 8, Red Sox 7:** Freddy Galvis and Rowdy Tellez hit back-to-back homers to help Toronto rally from a six-run deficit at Boston, and Eric Sogard drew a four-pitch, bases-loaded walk to break an eighth-inning tie.

The Red Sox scored five times in the second and led 6-0 after

three before its bullpen blew a save for the 15th time in 31 chances. The Blue Jays trailed 6-1 before scoring four in the seventh on two homers and a wild pitch, then added three more in the eighth, when Matt Barnes (3-2) and Ryan Brasier combined to walk four straight batters with two outs.

**Athletics 4, Rays 2:** Matt Chapman homered in the third inning and doubled in the go-ahead run in the seventh, leading host Oakland past Tampa Bay.

Ramon Laureano had two hits, was hit by pitches twice — including once with the bases loaded — and threw out a runner from center field for the A's. Khris Davis singled and scored.

Ji-Man Choi hit his ninth home run and Joey Wendle had two hits for Tampa Bay, which has lost nine of 12.

**Orioles 8, Mariners 3:** Jonathan Villar hit a three-run homer,

Anthony Santander had a two-run shot and Baltimore ended a 10-game skid with a win at Seattle.

Andrew Cashner worked six strong innings for the Orioles, who snapped the eighth-longest losing streak in club history.

**Brewers 6, Reds 5:** Yasmani Grandal led off for the first time in his career and homered in his opening at-bat to help host Milwaukee snap a season-high five-game losing streak.

Grandal put the Brewers ahead 5-4 with an RBI double in the fourth. Two outs later, he scored on Lorenzo Cain's bloop single that chased Cincinnati starter Luis Castillo (7-2).

**Indians 2, Tigers 0:** Aaron Civale dazzled in his major league debut, striking out the side to begin the game and allowing just two infield hits over six innings in host Cleveland's win over Detroit. Civale struck out six, walked three and worked out of a sixth-inning jam.

**Braves 13, Nationals 9:** Danby Swanson hit a tie-breaking three-run homer in the eighth inning, Freddie Freeman drove in five runs and visiting Atlanta rallied from a four-run deficit against Washington's beleaguered bullpen.

Freeman tied the Braves' franchise record of 10 consecutive games with an RBI. Sid Gordon also accomplished the feat for the then-Boston Braves in 1951.

**Rangers 6, White Sox 5:** Nomar Mazara hit two home runs, Lance Lynn shook off a four-run first inning and retired 17 of the last 18 batters he faced, and host Texas beat Chicago.

Ron-scoring singles by Texas' Shin-Soo Choo and Delino DeShields wiped out a 5-4 lead in the sixth inning for the White Sox.

**Giants 7, Diamondbacks 4:** Alex Dickerson had three RBIs, and five San Francisco relievers held host Arizona scoreless for five innings.

Dickerson, who doubled twice, has now driven in nine runs in two games after a six-RBI night on Friday.

## Dodgers get 2nd straight walk-off win

By JOE REEDY

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Alex Verdugo is not afraid of the big moments, a rookie who wants to receive the postgame Gatorade dunks.

Verdugo got his wish on Saturday. The center fielder hit his second home run of the game in the 11th inning to give the Dodgers a 5-4 victory over the Colorado Rockies.

"This guy loves the big moment. He doesn't run from it," manager Dave Roberts said. "So to have a young player with that kind of confidence, who's not afraid to fail, with his talent and energy. It couldn't have ended better for us."

It was the second straight night the Dodgers won with the long ball by a rookie. Matt Beatty ended Friday's game with a two-run shot in the ninth inning. Beatty and Verdugo are the first set of rookie teammates with walk-off homers in back-to-back games, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Verdugo hit a fastball from Jesus Tinoco (0-1) into the Rockies' bullpen in right field for his fourth hit of the game and first game-ending homer. It was his first multihomer game.

"I got a little in front and under it and good things happen," said Verdugo, who has three of his seven homers against the Rockies. "It felt good off the bat. I hit it decent but I didn't

know if I got enough of it to get out."

Raimel Tapia's pinch-hit home run in the seventh had given the Rockies a 4-3 lead, but Beatty tied it at 4 in the eighth with an RBI single for his third hit.

Dodgers lefty Hyun-Jin Ryu, who was trying to become the first 10-game winner in the NL, allowed three runs for the first time this season. However, only one was earned. Ryu worked six innings and surrendered six hits with one walk and six strikeouts.

The LA bullpen allowed only one run over the final five innings. Joe Kelly (2-3), who was the seventh pitcher, allowed only one walk in the 11th.



MARCO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

Los Angeles Dodgers center fielder Alex Verdugo celebrates his game-ending solo homer during the 11th inning of his team's 5-4 defeat of Colorado.

## Soccer/Sports Briefs



DAVID DERMER/AP

U.S. forward Gyasi Zardes celebrates after scoring against Trinidad and Tobago in a CONCACAF Gold Cup match on Saturday. The United States won 6-0.

# About face: US routs Trinidad in Gold Cup

By TOM WITHERS

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The only embarrassment and shame was felt on the other side. Two years later, the U.S. soccer team turned the tables on Trinidad and Tobago.

Gyasi Zardes scored two goals in a three-minute span, Christian Pulisic added one during a five-goal barrage in the second half and the Americans unloaded on their nemesis in a 6-0 blowout in the CONCACAF Gold Cup on Saturday night, earning a small dose of revenge over the team that handed them a nightmarish loss in 2017.

Aaron Long scored his first two international goals — one with his head, the other off his chest — and Paul Arriola scored as the U.S. tallied five goals in 25 minutes while cruising to its second shutout this week and advancing to the quarterfinals in Philadelphia on June 30.

It was the first matchup between the U.S. and Trinidad and Tobago since Oct. 10, 2017, when the Americans, needing only a tie to qualify for the 2018 World Cup, lost 2-1 to the Socca Warriors.

The embarrassing defeat snapped a streak of seven straight World Cup appearances by the Americans and triggered a top-to-bottom overhaul of the men's program, which has operated in the imposing shadow of the powerful U.S. women, seeking their fourth world title in France.

There would be no repeat performance by this revamped U.S. team, which is determined to win back global respect.

"Every time we step on the field we want to make a statement," said Zardes, who just missed getting a third goal. "We're trying to change the way the world views American soccer."

The Americans posted their most lopsided win since beating Honduras 6-0 in a World Cup qualifier on March 24, 2017, when Pulisic, who took over this game in the second half, also scored and had a pair of assists.

But while much of the pre-game talk centered on the U.S. getting payback, the Americans insist they've put the past behind them.

"For us, we advance to the next round," coach Gregg Berhalter said. "That's important. Our focus was to prepare for this game knowing that if we'd be able to go to the next round. That was the focus of the group. Trinidad was in our way."

Not anymore.

With the U.S. leading 1-0 on Long's goal in the 41st minute, Zardes scored from

right in front shortly after U.S. goalkeeper Zack Steffen made a diving save to stop Trinidad from tying a match the Americans dominated.

Michael Bradley chipped the ball from the left side to a charging Nick Lima, who headed the ball to Zardes in front. The American striker only had to guide it by Trinidad keeper Marvin Phillip in the 65th minute. Two minutes later, Zardes buried a hard shot from the left side for his 10th international goal and second two-goal game for the Americans.

Zardes nearly completed a hat trick, but his low shot from up top in the 70th minute hit the left upright.

Next up for the Americans is a matchup with Panama on Wednesday.

On a picture-perfect night along the shores of Lake Erie, the American team controlled possession and tempo while thoroughly outplaying T&T, which was blanked 2-0 by Panama in its opening match and was eliminated.

The Socca Warriors were content to sit back and let the U.S. attack, hoping to spring counters. They nearly connected in the 61st minute as Cordell Cato eluded three defenders on the right side and hit teammate Levi Garcia in stride. But Garcia's shot was high and wide.

"Big moment," Trinidad coach Dennis Lawrence said. "When you get in that position, you have to put that away."

Lawrence was upset with how his team collapsed following the U.S. team's second goal.

"How can you play so good for 65 minutes and then so awful for the last 25?" he said, repeating his postgame message to his players. "We have to learn to stand up and fight. We lost focus and we paid the price."

Berhalter stuck with the same starting lineup he used in the opener over Guyana but gave the captain's armband to Steffen for the first time. Bradley captained the Americans in the opening 4-0 win over Guyana.

Long, who plays in the MLS for the New York Red Bulls, put the U.S. ahead off a beautiful feed from the left side by Pulisic.

Shortly after the U.S. was awarded a free kick, the Americans kept pressing and maintained possession in Trinidad's half before Pulisic spotted Long inside the 6-yard-box and delivered an arching pass to the forward, who left his feet, connected and drove the ball past a sprawling Phillip.

# Penalty shootout rule changed for World Cup

By ROB HARRIS

Associated Press

VALENCIENNES, France — The debut of video review in women's soccer is causing confusion and has pushed FIFA to make a rule change heading into the knockout phase of the World Cup.

FIFA received approval from the game's lawmaking body to suspend the rule that goalkeepers must be shown yellow cards for stepping off the goal-line during penalty shootouts.

With video assistant referees able to keep a closer eye on infractions, FIFA feared more goalkeepers could be penalized — and sent off if it's a second booking with no substitute allowed during shootouts. But the penalty kick will still be retaken.

The International Football Association Board granted the temporary dispensation on Friday, which means goalkeepers can only be booked at the tournament for stepping off the line with both feet during a penalty kick in normal time.

"The caution for a goalkeeper who commits an offense was introduced in the laws as a deterrent," FIFA refereeing chief Pierluigi Collina said in comments provided by the governing body.

"But what better deterrent than the VAR? It's not possible that a goalkeeper moves

both her feet off the goal line without being noticed. In addition we felt that the risk for a second caution was too high considering the number of penalties that are taken."

Penalty kicks have already been retaken during the group stage because VAR has scrutinized goalkeepers' movements more closely. Argentina was facing elimination after missing a penalty kick but it was ordered to be retaken after a video review, and the team scored to clinch a 3-3 draw. That clinched third place in Group D and a place in the round of 16.

"If a goalkeeper commits an offense like encroaching before the penalty kick is taken, the VAR cannot do anything but intervene and inform the referee that the penalty kick must be retaken and the goalkeeper cautioned," Collina said.

"All the teams were duly informed at the beginning of March and goalkeepers had enough time to get used to it."

But the law could be revisited at future meetings of IFAB, which includes four FIFA delegates and a representative from each of the four British associations.

"After the end of the tournament the disciplinary sanctions for offenses committed by the goalkeeper at penalties might be further discussed within IFAB's panels," Collina said.

## Briefly

# Trainer banned after horse death

Associated Press

ARCADIA, Calif. — Hall of Fame trainer Jerry Hollendorfer was banned by the ownership of Santa Anita on Saturday after a fourth horse from his stable died — and the 30th overall — at the Southern California track.

The Stronach Group, which owns the track, said in a statement that effectively immediately Hollendorfer "is no longer welcome to stable, race or train his horses at any of our facilities."

On the recommendation of a special panel convened to review horses' medical, training and racing history, the track's stewards scratched four horses trained by Hollendorfer that were entered to run Saturday and Sunday.

A 4-year-old gelding trained by Hollendorfer was injured Saturday while exercising on the training track and was euthanized. It was the first death of the meet on the training track, which isn't used for racing.

It was the 30th death since the racing season began Dec. 26. The track closes for the season Sunday.

Hollendorfer couldn't immediately be reached for comment.

## Federer wins Halle Open

HALLE, Germany — Roger Federer set another benchmark in his remarkable career by winning his 10th Halle Open title on Sunday.

The Swiss great defeated David Goffin 7-6 (2), 6-1 to extend his record of wins at the grass-court tournament and claim his 10th at an individual event for the first time. Only Rafael Nadal had previously achieved the feat in the Open era.

In other tennis news:

■ Ashleigh Barty defeated Julia Goerges 6-3, 7-5 to win the Birmingham Classic title, a victory that ensures the Australian

will be No. 1 in the rankings on Monday.

The 23-year-old Barty, who lost the final to Petra Kvitová in 2017, did not drop a set all week at the grass-court tournament, and she fought back from being 4-5 down in the second set to beat the German in 1 hour, 28 minutes.

## Easy win for Hamilton

LE CASTELLÉ, France — Lewis Hamilton comfortably won the French Grand Prix from the pole position on Sunday to clinch a sixth victory this season and extend his championship lead over Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas to 36 points.

It was Hamilton's fourth consecutive win and 79th overall — only 12 behind Formula One record-holder Michael Schumacher's tally of 91.

In other auto racing news:

■ Ross Chastain won the NASCAR Truck Series race Saturday night at The Raceway at Gateway, a week after losing a victory at Iowa when he was disqualified for failing a postrace inspection.

Chastain finished 0.740 seconds ahead of Todd Gilliland in the 160-lap race on the 1.25-mile oval.

## Reavie leads Travelers after 63

CROMWELL, Conn. — Chez Reavie shot a 7-under 63 on Saturday and took advantage of second-round leader Zach Suer's problems to take a six-stroke lead into the final round of the Travelers Championship.

Coming off a third-place tie last week in the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach, the 37-year-old Reavie was six shots behind Suer at the turn, then matched the tournament record with a back-nine 28.

In other golf news:

■ Hannah Green has a one-shot lead going into the final round of the KPMG Women's PGA Championship.

## WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

## England reaches quarters

By ROB HARRIS  
Associated Press

VALENCIENNES, France — Steph Houghton scored on a rare free kick to set England on its way to a 3-0 victory over Cameroon on Sunday, clinching a place in the Women's World Cup quarterfinals after a game punctuated by the anger of the African team over VAR decisions.

At times during the incident-filled game in northeast France, the Cameroon players looked like they might refuse to resume playing as they protested against decisions while referee Quin Jian Liang struggled to maintain control.

Houghton scored the first goal after the captain was set up for an indirect free kick in the penalty area in the 14th minute.

Ellen White added to the lead in the fourth minute of first-half stoppage time with a goal only awarded after an offside call was overruled on a video review.

Cameroon players were seething again when they were denied a goal at the start of the second half when another offside VAR review went against the lowest-ranked team remaining in the competition.

England, which finished third in the 2015 tournament, pulled further ahead in the 58th minute when Alex Greenwood swept in from a corner.

England will next play Norway in the quarterfinals on Thursday in Le Havre.

Cameroon had never won a knockout stage game at a Women's World Cup — reaching the round of 16 on its debut four years ago and was the lowest-ranked team remaining in France at No. 46

## Scoreboard

**Round of 16**  
Saturday, June 22  
At Grenoble, France  
Germany 3, Nigeria 0  
At Nice, France  
Norway 1, Australia 1, Norway wins 4-1 on penalty kicks  
Sunday, June 23  
At Valenciennes, France  
England 3, Cameroon 0  
At Le Havre, France  
France vs. Brazil  
Monday, June 24  
At Reims, France  
Spain vs. United States, AFN-Sports, 6 p.m. Monday CET; 1 a.m. Tuesday JKT  
At Paris  
Sweden vs. Canada  
Tuesday, June 25  
At Montpellier, France  
Italy vs. China  
At Rennes, France  
Netherlands vs. Japan  
**QUARTERFINAL**  
Thursday, June 27  
At Le Havre, France  
Norway vs. England  
Friday, June 28  
At Paris  
France/Brazil vs. Spain/United States  
Saturday, June 29  
At Valenciennes, France  
Italy/China vs. Netherlands/Japan  
At Rennes, France  
Germany vs. Sweden/Canada winner  
**SEMIFINAL**  
Tuesday, July 2  
At Lyon, France  
Le Havre winner vs. Paris winner  
Wednesday, July 3  
At Lyon, France  
Valenciennes winner vs. Rennes winner  
**THIRD PLACE**  
Saturday, July 6  
At Nice, France  
Semifinal losers  
**CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Sunday, July 7  
At Lyon, France  
Semifinal winners



England players celebrate after defeating Cameroon 3-0 on Sunday in Valenciennes, France, to advance to the quarterfinals.



Norway players celebrate after winning a penalty shootout Saturday against Australia in the round of 16 in Nice, France. Norway defeated Australia 4-1 on penalty shots after the game ended 1-1.

## Norway wins in shootout

By DANIELLA MATAR  
Associated Press

NICE, France — Ingrid Hjelmseth proved to be a shootout hero once again as Norway beat Australia on penalties Saturday night to advance to the quarterfinals of the Women's World Cup.

Hjelmseth saved Emily Gielnik's kick and Ingrid Engen, who is playing in her first World Cup, hit the decisive penalty as Norway won the shootout 4-1 after the match had finished 1-1.

Australia captain Sam Kerr, who was frustrated by Norway most of the night despite several opportunities, fired her penalty shot high and wide.

"It was a great win," Hjelmseth said. "I was just focusing and picking a side when they put the ball down. I was just telling myself, 'OK, I will go to the right,' and then I took a chance and it was good for us, it was the right

side."

Hjelmseth saved two penalties in her last shootout semifinal of the 2013 European Championship.

"That was a good one," she said. "I think when you're a goalie you can only be a hero so it's just about picking a side and just finding the right timing to go so you don't get the VAR stuff."

The shootout came after a game during which neither team had a clear advantage, though Norway succeeded in keeping Australia's Kerr from being much of a factor. Kerr had a goal ruled out in the second half after offside was called. Australia also had two penalties denied on video review in normal time.

The game went to extra time after Australia's Elise Kellond-Knight scored from a corner to make it a 1-1 game in the 83rd minute.

Forward Isabella Herlovsen put

Norway up 1-0 with a goal in the 31st.

Australia had to play the final 16 minutes of extra time at a numerical disadvantage after defender Alanna Kennedy was sent off on a red card for hauling down Norway forward Lisa-Marie Utlund. Norway peppered Australia's goal but was repeatedly denied by goalkeeper Lydia Williams.

"It was tough," Kerr said. "A lot of the girls had already played a lot of minutes so we were already running on empty and then obviously Alanna getting sent off is not ideal but we stuck together. We were still confident and believing in each other but it just didn't come off tonight."

Kerr ended the tournament tied with American Alex Morgan for the most goals at five.

Australia was thwarted in its attempt to reach the quarterfinals for a fourth straight time.

## Getting: Americans haven't allowed a goal in last 594 minutes of play

## FROM BACK PAGE

"To come away from group play with three shutouts, as a team defensively, I'm very proud of that," she said. "It's a goal that we have going into every game, especially as a back line, to keep clean sheets. We put a lot of time into team defending as well, all 11 players on the field are defending, and that cohesiveness is what helps bring that."

The team's backbone in France has shifted due to lineup changes and injuries. Veteran center back Becky Sauerbrunn was held out of the first game because of a minor injury, but came back against Chile when coach Jill Ellis rested players.

Against Sweden, Ellis used the backbone that is expected to start in the knockout phase, with Abby Dahlkemper alongside Sauerbrunn, Kelley O'Hara on the right and Crystal Dunn on the left. Dunn was especially effective against Sweden and in thwarting forward Sofia Jakobsson.

The United States has seven clean sheets in its last eight World Cup matches — the exception being the two goals allowed in the team's 5-2 victory over Japan in the 2015 final. The United States went 540 minutes in Canada without conceding a goal, the longest streak in the tournament since Germany's record 607 scoreless minutes from 2003-11.

Former goalkeeper Hope Solo allowed just three total goals and won her second straight Golden Glove as the tournament's top goalkeeper. The backbone included Sauerbrunn, Meghan Klingenberg, Julie Johnston and Ali Krieger.

Johnston, now Julie Ertz, has moved up into a role as a defensive midfielder in France. She sat out against Sweden because of a hip contusion but U.S. Soccer characterized the injury as minor. Krieger won a spot on the roster for this tournament because of her big-game experience after a long layoff from the team.

Naeher has replaced Solo, considered one of the game's best goalkeepers ever. Solo was dismissed from the team following the 2016 Olympics.

Brushing off the inevitable comparisons, Naeher has been steady in goal.

"I've played with Alyssa since I was like 16 so I've known her for a really long time. It's awesome to see her step into this role because I've always known that she has the capacity and the talent to be the starting goalkeeper on this team. She's shown that," O'Hara said. "She, for me, provides a very calm consistency back there. She's also someone with steady nerves. I think she does a really good job of just putting on a game face."

The United States is currently on a streak of 594 minutes since last conceding a goal. The last came in the 81st minute of a 5-3 victory over Australia in April.

Echoing Naeher, Tobin Heath said the Americans have embraced team defense.

"It's huge. It's a big part of what we're trying to do, both offensively and defensively. We always talk about this idea of 360 defending, where everybody's contributing," Heath said. "I think Alyssa's been fantastic. It's not easy, especially in the first two games to not face that many shots, and then to have a quality opponent like Sweden, to be on her game."

If the top-ranked U.S. can get past No. 13 Spain, there's a possibility of a clash against hosts France in the quarterfinal in Paris. The fourth-ranked French, who scored seven goals in the group stage and conceded just one, face Brazil on Sunday.

"I think this is the best team we've had, and we're so confident right now, we're so motivated to want to win and succeed," Krieger said. "We know what tools we have and what we need in order to break teams down and be successful in the final third. I think that's what we've showcased so far."



## SPORTS



## US routs Trinidad

Americans get revenge with 6-0 win in Gold Cup » **Page 30**

# Getting defensive

## US backline expects more work in knockout round

By ANNE M. PETERSON  
*Associated Press*

REIMS, France—Much of the attention on the United States rightly goes to its prolific offense, especially after that 13-goal game to open the Women's World Cup, but the team's defense has been predictably reliable so far in France.

The defense has posted shutouts in the team's first three games, marking the first time the United States has not conceded a goal in the group stage at the tournament. The defending champions open the knockout round Monday against Spain.

Goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher saw little action during the team's rout of Thailand in the opener, but matches against Chile and Sweden provided incrementally tougher tests.

SEE GETTING ON PAGE 31

U.S. defender Crystal Dunn, right, heads the ball away from Sweden's Stina Blackstenius during group play on Thursday in Le Havre, France.

Alissaundra Tarantino/AP

Stanton helps Yankees to win eighth straight » **MLB, Page 29**

England shuts out Cameroon to advance to quarterfinals » **Women's World Cup, Page 31**

